

SUMMARY OF THE 2001 U.S. NORTH AND SOUTH PACIFIC ALBACORE TROLL FISHERIES

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INTRODUCTION

Albacore (*Thunnus alalunga*) are commercially harvested in the North Pacific by fisheries from various nations ([Table 1](#)). Japan harvests the greatest amount, annually taking 74% (since 1952) of the total amount of North Pacific albacore landed by all nations; the U.S. annually harvests less than 20%. U.S. vessels fish for albacore in the Pacific primarily with troll (also called jig) gear (artificial lures with barbless hooks towed behind a vessel). U.S. troll vessels have fished for albacore in the North Pacific since the early 1900's (Clemens and Craig, 1965). The collection of voluntary logbook data from the U.S. North Pacific albacore troll fishery began in 1954 (Laurs et al., 1975a). The collection of length-frequency data from the U.S. North Pacific albacore troll fishery began in 1951. The agencies currently involved in the collection of voluntary logbook, length-frequency, and catch information from the U.S. Pacific albacore troll fisheries are the Southwest Fisheries Science Center (SWFSC, La Jolla and Honolulu Laboratories) of the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), Western Fishboat Owners Association (WFOA), American Fishermen's Research Foundation (AFRF), Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission (PSMFC), and the state fisheries agencies of California, Oregon, and Washington.

Beginning in 1971, cooperative surveys between NMFS and AFRF led to the expansion of areas fished by U.S. troll vessels to areas north of Hawaii and west of the International Dateline (Laurs, et al., 1975b). In recent years, the North Pacific albacore troll season has begun as early as mid-April in areas northwest of Midway Island. In July and August, fishing effort expands to the east (130°W to 160°W, and 40°N to 45°N), and along the west coast of North America. Fishing areas along the west coast of North America extend from Vancouver Island through southern California. Fishing can continue into November if weather permits and sufficient amounts of albacore remain available to troll gear.

Albacore are also harvested in the South Pacific by a variety of nations ([Table 2](#)). Taiwan currently harvests the largest proportion of albacore caught annually in the South Pacific (43% on average since 1990). The annual U.S. portion of the South Pacific albacore catch has averaged 6% since 1990. In 2001 nine troll vessels changed gear types and began fishing for South Pacific albacore within the EEZ of American Samoa using longline gear (G. Yamasaki, pers. comm.)

Exploratory fishing for albacore with troll gear in areas east of New Zealand in 1986 resulted in the expansion of the U.S. albacore troll fishery to the South Pacific (Laurs et al., 1987). The collection of logbook and catch data from the fishery began in 1986, while length-frequency data has been collected since 1987. The fishery takes place during the austral summer months

(November through April). U.S. troll vessels that participate in the South Pacific fishery depart from the U.S. west coast or Hawaii after the end of the North Pacific season and travel to American Samoa or French Polynesia to prepare for the South Pacific season. South Pacific albacore fishing areas extend from the Tasman Sea to approximately 110°W between 25°S and 45°S. At the end of the season (March or April), most troll vessels unload in American Samoa, Fiji, or Tahiti and then travel to Hawaii or the U.S. west coast to prepare for the next North Pacific fishing season.

This report presents summaries of the logbook (daily catch and effort), catch, and length-frequency information collected from the U.S. fleet during the 2001 North Pacific and the 2000-2001 South Pacific albacore seasons. Data from the 2000 North Pacific season, 1999-2000 South Pacific season, and from other fisheries (where available) are included for comparison.

DATA COLLECTED

Total annual catch data from the various fisheries that harvest albacore in the Pacific Ocean are available from 1952 to 2001 ([Tables 1 and 2](#)). Total catch estimates from U.S. troll vessels and from at-sea transshipments are provided by WFOA. Catch data from state landing receipts that are submitted by fish buyers and canneries are obtained from the state fisheries agencies of California, Oregon, and Washington and from the Pacific Coast Fisheries Information Network (PacFIN). Daily catch and effort data are obtained from completed copies of the *U.S. Pacific Albacore Logbook*. The logbooks are voluntarily submitted by fishermen, transcribed by port samplers who collect the information from cooperating fishermen, or mailed to the SWFSC. In addition to the voluntary logbook program, U.S. troll vessels that fish for albacore outside the U.S. exclusive economic zone (EEZ) are required by the High Seas Fisheries Compliance Act (HSFCA) to mail their logbook data to SWFSC for the time they fished outside the U.S. EEZ. Approximately 1,000 logbooks were distributed to fishermen for the 2001 North Pacific and the 2000-2001 South Pacific albacore seasons. Samplers in the ports of Ilwaco, Washington; Newport, Astoria, and Charleston Oregon; Terminal Island, California; and Pago Pago, American Samoa collected voluntary logbook, length-frequency, and landings (catch) data during the 2001 North Pacific season. Samplers in Pago Pago collected voluntary and mandatory logbook, length-frequency, and catch data during the 2000-2001 South Pacific season.

North Pacific sea surface temperature (SST) data are recorded from commercial transport ships, fishing vessels, and research vessels. These data are collected by the National Weather Service's National Centers for Environmental Prediction (NCEP). These data are summarized by month and archived at the Climate Diagnostics Center (CDC). The SST data from each month of the North Pacific albacore troll season were compiled and computer-analyzed at the SWFSC La Jolla laboratory. Contours of SSTs (isotherms) were produced with a resolution of 1° of latitude and longitude and are displayed with the general catch areas of North Pacific troll-caught albacore in figures 2a through 2f. Analysis of SSTs shows the distribution of isotherms and the locations of temperature fronts (areas of closely-spaced isotherms). Albacore tend to congregate along these fronts in the North Pacific transition zone (Laurs and Lynn, 1977). Currently, there is insufficient SST information available from the areas of the South Pacific

albacore troll fishery (east of New Zealand to 110°W and south of 30°S) to make a similar analysis possible.

TOTAL CATCH AND EFFORT

Total catch from the 2001 U.S. North Pacific albacore troll fishery increased to 11,170 metric tons (t) from 9,645 t landed in 2000. A total of 311 t were unloaded from U.S. troll vessels at sea and transshipped to American Samoa canneries by carrier vessels in 2001 compared to 953 t transshipped in 2000. An estimated 870 U.S. troll vessels fished in the 2001 North Pacific fishery (Table 3), a 32% increase from 659 troll vessels that fished in 2000. Fishing effort in the albacore troll fisheries is measured in number of fishing days. The total number of fishing days is estimated by the following equation:

$$Effort(days) = Catch(pounds) \div [CPUE(\frac{fish}{day}) \div AverageWeight(\frac{pounds}{fish})]$$

U.S. troll vessels fished 24,883 days during the 2001 North Pacific albacore season, a 33% decrease from 37,073 days fished in 2000 (Table 3). The average price paid for albacore caught by troll vessels in 2001 was \$1,710 USD per short ton (86 cents per pound). This is an 8% decrease from the average price of \$1,870 USD per short ton (94 cents per pound) paid in 2000.

The South Pacific albacore troll fishery begins in November or December and continues into March or April of the following year. As a result, season totals differ slightly from annual totals. The season catches of South Pacific albacore caught by troll gear (Table 4) are converted to annual totals and listed in table 2. The 2000-2001 season catch by U.S. troll vessels decreased to 2,128 t from 2,562 t landed in the 1999-2000 season. Thirty-three U.S. troll vessels participated in the 2000-2001 South Pacific season compared to 36 vessels that fished in the 1999-2000 season. Total fishing effort for the 2000-2001 South Pacific albacore season is estimated to be 6,017 days, an increase of 29% from 4,663 days fished in the 1999-2000 season (Table 4). The average price paid for albacore caught by troll vessels in the South Pacific in the 2000-2001 season was \$1,920 USD per short ton (96 cents per pound), a 6% increase from the average price of \$1,813 USD per short ton (91 cents per pound) paid in the 1999-2000 season.

Albacore may be discarded during a fishing trip because they are damaged or have become spoiled due to refrigeration problems. However, the primary reason for discarding albacore is because they are under-sized (less than 58 cm fork length or 9 pounds). Forty-eight trips (of 410 sampled trips) recorded a total of 4,561 albacore discarded during the 2001 North Pacific troll season. Four trips (of 28 sampled trips) recorded 55 albacore discarded during the 2000-2001 South Pacific troll season. Albacore troll vessels catch minor amounts of other fish species, usually while in transit to or from the fishing grounds. The most common species caught incidentally include skipjack tuna (*Katsuwonus pelamis*), yellowtail (*Seriola lalandi*), mahi mahi (*Coryphaena hippurus*), bluefin tuna (*Thunnus thynnus*), billfish, and sharks.

DISTRIBUTION OF CATCHES AND SSTs

Albacore catches recorded during the 2001 North Pacific albacore troll season extend from 167°E to the west coast of the U.S. and Canada, between approximately 35°N and 49°N (Figure 1). Areas of high catch indicate productive regions where albacore are available to troll

gear. Based on sampled logbook data, the most productive offshore areas were scattered between 145°W and 168°E from 35°N to 45°N. The highest catch areas along the west coast were off Washington and Oregon from 41°N to 49°N, out to 128°W.

Figures 2a through 2f show the relationship between catch areas, SST fronts, and isotherm distribution patterns. The areas of highest catch in May were in SSTs ranging from 11°C to 19°C (52°F to 66°F; [Figure 2a](#)) between 168°E and 180°. High catch areas in June ranged from 168°E to the Columbia River and were also in SSTs between 11°C and 19°C (52°F and 66°F, respectively; [Figure 2b](#)). During July, high catches were spread widely throughout the North Pacific transition zone in SSTs that ranged from 12°C to 19°C (54°F to 66°F; [Figure 2c](#)). High catch areas in August were again widely spread throughout the North Pacific transition zone and were in SSTs ranging from 13°C to 19°C (55°F to 66°F; [Figure 2d](#)). In September, high catch areas were spread from 162°W to the west coast, and were in SSTs ranging between 14°C and 20°C (57°F and 68°F, respectively; [Figure 2e](#)). High catch areas offshore in October were distributed between 150°W and 162°W in SSTs ranging from 14°C to 19°C (57°F to 66°F; [Figure 2f](#)). October catches along the west coast were still high in SSTs between 13°C and 17°C (55°F and 63°F, respectively).

Albacore catches recorded during the 2000-2001 South Pacific season were summarized by season and month in 5° squares of latitude and longitude (Figures 3a through 3f). The highest albacore catches of the season were made between 160°W and 150°W, from 40°S to 45°S ([Figure 3a](#)). The highest catches in December were less than 3,883 fish and were in the area between 170°W and 145°W from 35°S to 40°S ([Figure 3b](#)). January's highest catch areas ranged between 155°W and 140°W from 35°S to 40°S ([Figure 3c](#)). Catches in February were highest between 160°W and 155°W from 40°S to 45°S ([Figure 3d](#)). The highest catches in March were confined to the area between 155°W and 150°W, from 40°S to 45°S ([Figure 3e](#)). The highest catches in April were less than 3,883 fish and extended between 155°W and 145°W, from 35°S to 45°S ([Figure 3f](#)).

CATCH-PER-UNIT EFFORT

Catch-Per-Unit Effort (CPUE) is used as an indication of relative abundance of albacore available to troll gear, or a measure of fishing success, and is expressed in numbers of fish caught per day fished. Catch (in numbers of fish) and effort (in days fished) were summarized from logbook data by 10-day and 1°-square strata in which there was at least one day of fishing effort (Kleiber and Perrin, 1991). Average CPUE is calculated as follows:

$$Average\ CPUE = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{C_i}{E_i}}{n}$$

Where C_i is the total sampled catch in the i^{th} stratum, E_i is the total sampled effort in the i^{th} stratum, and n is the total number of strata.

The CPUE for the North Pacific albacore troll fishery declined by approximately 68% between 1962 and 1977, then remained relatively stable between 1977 and 1991 ([Figure 4](#)). The

CPUE increased from 1991 to 1998 with large fluctuations between 1995 and 1999. The average CPUE for the 2001 North Pacific season is 68 fish per day, a large increase from 39 fish per day in the 2000 season (Table 3). The ten-year average from 1991 through 2001 is 59 fish per day.

The CPUE for the U.S. South Pacific albacore troll fishery declined between 1987 and 1993 (Figure 4). The CPUE then peaked at 150 fish per day in 1995 and remained relatively stable at 70 fish per day since 1996. The CPUE for the 2000-2001 South Pacific season is 48 fish per day, a 31% decrease from 70 fish per day in the 1999-2000 season (Table 4). The ten-year average for CPUE in the South Pacific from 1991 through 2001 is 78 fish per day.

The CPUEs from the 2001 North Pacific season were averaged by season, month, and 1° squares of latitude and longitude. The general distributions of season and monthly CPUEs in 2001 were very similar to the distributions in 2000. The highest CPUEs for the 2001 North Pacific season ranged from 148 to 546 fish per day and were scattered between 168°E and 145°W, from 34°N to 45°N, (Figure 5a). CPUEs in May were highest between 170°E and 178°E, from 35°N to 39°N (Figure 5b). In June, the highest CPUEs offshore were distributed between 168°E and 161°W, from 36°N to 41°N (Figure 5c). The highest CPUEs in June along the coast were distributed between 127°W and 125°W, from 41°N to 46°N. High CPUEs offshore in July were scattered between 169°E and 161°W from 38°N to 44°N (Figure 5d). The highest CPUEs along the coast in July were confined to the area between 127°W and 125°W, from 43°N to 44°N. In August, CPUEs in the offshore areas (similar to July) were scattered between 170°E and 145°W, from 40°N to 45°N (Figure 5e). The highest CPUEs along the coast were distributed between 128°W and 125°W, from 42°N to 44°N. In September, high CPUEs in the offshore region extended between 165°W and 147°W, from 41°N to 45°N. The highest CPUEs along the coast were scattered between 126°W and 123°W, from 37°N to 43°N (Figure 5f). In October, the highest CPUEs were only found offshore between 154°W and 150°W, from 40°N to 45°N (Figure 5g).

The CPUEs from the 2000-2001 South Pacific season were averaged by season, month, and 5° squares of latitude and longitude. The distributions of CPUEs in the 2000-2001 season were similar to those in the 1999-2000 season, but extended somewhat further north and south. The highest CPUEs for the 2000-2001 season ranged from 86 fish per day to 137 fish per day and were distributed between 165°W and 140°W, from 40°S to 50°S (Figure 6a). CPUEs in December 2000 did not exceed 81 fish per day and the highest CPUEs were scattered between 170°W and 145°W, from 35°S to 40°S (Figure 6b). CPUEs in January 2001 were highest between 165°W and 160°W, from 40°S to 50°S (Figure 6c). In February, the highest CPUEs were distributed between 165°W and 150°W, from 40°S to 45°S (Figure 6d). The highest CPUEs in March were located between 145°W and 140°W, from 40°S to 45°S (Figure 6e). CPUEs in April did not exceed 81 fish per day and were distributed between 155°W and 145°W, from 40°S to 45°S (Figure 6f).

LOGBOOK SAMPLING COVERAGE

Logbook sampling coverage is expressed as the ratio of catches from sampled trips (those trips from which logbook data were received) to total catches. Not all catches from sampled trips are available. For consistent comparison of sampling coverage between seasons, sampled

catches are estimated by multiplying numbers of fish caught (recorded in logbooks) by the average weight of those fish and summing these estimates from sampled logbooks.

A total of 414 trips (of 3,114 total trips) were sampled for logbook information during the 2001 North Pacific albacore troll season. Sampled catches totaled 3,080 t, resulting in a logbook sampling coverage rate of 28 %, a substantial decrease from 41% in 2000 ([Table 3](#)).

Logbook data from the 2000-2001 South Pacific albacore troll season were collected from 28 of the 37 trips made by U.S. vessels. The sampled catch from these trips is 1,371 t, resulting in a logbook sampling coverage of 64%, slightly higher than the logbook sampling coverage (61%) in the 1999-2000 season ([Table 4](#)).

LENGTH-FREQUENCIES

Port samplers measured 14,105 albacore during the 2001 North Pacific season. Fork lengths of albacore measured during the 2001 North Pacific season ranged from 42 cm (3.4 lb or 1.5 kg) to 101 cm (46.4 lb or 21.0 kg) and averaged 68.5 cm (14.5 lb or 6.6 kg). The average fork length of albacore measured during the 2000 season is 68.9 cm (14.8 lb or 6.7 kg). The histogram of length-frequency samples from the 2001 North Pacific season shows two prominent modes centered at 64 cm (11.9 lb or 5.4 kg; [Figure 7](#)) and 75 cm (19.0 lb or 8.6 kg). The majority of albacore that are taken in both the North and South Pacific troll fisheries range from three to five years old. Length-age and length-weight relationships for North Pacific albacore are taken from Bartoo and Forman, 1993.

Small albacore (less than 58 cm fork length or 8.8 lb (4.0 kg)) may not be adequately represented in the length-frequency data collected from the North Pacific fishery. Vessels that sell most of their catch to canneries or buying stations (which may pay less for small fish) might discard small fish when they are abundant in the catches. Troll vessels that sell their fish to markets where small fish are preferred might retain more small fish. These fish are usually not available to port samplers for measuring.

Port samplers measured 3,670 albacore during the 2000-2001 South Pacific troll season. Sampled (measured) albacore ranged from 49 cm (5.3 lb or 2.4 kg) to 100 cm (45.0 lb or 20.4 kg) and averaged 71.0 cm (16.2 lb or 7.3 kg). The average fork length of sampled albacore from the 1999-2000 season is 72.6 cm (17.3 lb or 7.8 kg). A single distinct mode, centered at 71 cm (16.2 lb or 7.3 kg) is apparent in the histogram of fish sampled in the 2000-2001 season ([Figure 8](#)). Length-age relationships for South Pacific albacore are taken from Labelle et al., 1993.

LENGTH-FREQUENCY SAMPLING COVERAGE

Length-frequency sampling coverage is expressed as the ratio of the number of fish sampled (measured) to the total number of fish landed for the season. The total number of fish landed for the season is estimated by dividing total catch by the average weight of fish landed. During the 2001 North Pacific season 14,105 albacore were measured, resulting in a length-frequency sampling coverage of 0.8%, very similar to the 1999 sampling coverage of 0.9% ([Table 3](#)).

Port samplers in Pago Pago, American Samoa measured 3,670 of the estimated 290,127 albacore landed during the 2000-2001 South Pacific albacore fishery. The length-frequency sampling coverage rate for the 2000-2001 season is 1.3%, compared to 0.4% in the 1999-2000 season (Table 4).

SUMMARY

The 2001 U.S. North Pacific albacore troll fishery was slightly more productive than the 2000 fishery. Approximately 870 vessels landed 11,170 t during the 2001 season compared to 659 vessels that landed 9,645 t in 2000, a 16% increase in total catch. Total effort declined 33% from the 2000 fishing season. The highest catches of albacore in the North Pacific generally are distributed between the 11°C (52°F) and 19°C (66°F) isotherms. The average CPUE for the 2001 North Pacific season increased substantially from 39 fish per day in 2000 to 68 fish per day. Productive catch areas (areas with high CPUEs) ranged between 168°E and the West Coast, from 34°N to 49°N. The average fork length of sampled albacore from the 2001 season is 68.5 cm (14 lb or 6.6 kg). The average fork length of albacore measured during the 2000 season is 68.9 cm (15 lb or 6.7 kg). Fish less than 58 cm fork length (9 lb or 4.0 kg) may not be adequately represented in the North Pacific length-frequency samples due to discarding of small fish or marketing practices that prohibited sampling them. Logbook sampling coverage for the North Pacific albacore fishery dropped from 41% in the 2000 season to 28% in 2001. Length-frequency sampling coverage was nearly the same as the 2000 season at 0.8%. Port sampling of the U.S. North Pacific fishery continues to be hampered by funding constraints.

Total catch from the 2000-2001 South Pacific season decreased slightly to 2,128 t from 2,562 t in the 1999-2000 season. Thirty-three U.S. troll vessels fished 6,017 days in the 2000-2001 season compared to 36 vessels that fished 4,663 days in the 1999-2000 season. The CPUE for the 2000-2001 season decreased substantially to 48 fish per day, from 70 fish per day in the 1999-2000 season. Although total catch and the total number of vessels participating in the 2000-2001 troll season remained roughly the same as the previous season, total days of effort increased substantially, causing catch rates (CPUEs) to decline during the 2000-2001 season. The average fork length of albacore measured during the 2000-2001 season is 71.0 cm (16.2 lb or 7.3 kg), compared to an average fork length of 72.6 cm (17.3 lb or 7.8 kg) in the 1999-2000 season. Logbook sampling coverage for the 2000-2001 South Pacific albacore troll fishery increased slightly from 61% in the 1999-2000 season to 64% in the 2000-2001 season. Length-frequency sampling coverage increased from 0.4% in the 1999-2000 season to 1.3% in the 2000-2001 season.

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Table 1. North Pacific albacore catches (in metric tons) by fisheries, 1952-2000¹. Blank indicates no effort. -- indicates data not available. 0 indicates less than 1 metric ton. Provisional estimates in ().

| YEAR | CANADA ² | | JAPAN ³ | | | | | KOREA ⁴ | | MEXICO ⁵ |
|------|---------------------|----------------|--------------------|--------------|----------------|----------------|---------------|--------------------|--------------|---------------------|
| | TROLL | PURSE SEINE | GILL NET | LONG LINE | POLE & LINE | PURSE SEINE | UNSP. GEAR | GILL NET | LONG LINE | UNSP. GEAR |
| 1952 | 71 | | | 26,687 | 41,787 | 154 | 237 | | | |
| 1953 | 5 | | | 27,777 | 32,921 | 38 | 132 | | | |
| 1954 | | | | 20,958 | 28,069 | 23 | 38 | | | |
| 1955 | | | | 16,277 | 24,236 | 8 | 136 | | | |
| 1956 | 17 | | | 14,341 | 42,810 | | 57 | | | |
| 1957 | 8 | | | 21,053 | 49,500 | 83 | 151 | | | |
| 1958 | 74 | | | 18,432 | 22,175 | 8 | 124 | | | |
| 1959 | 212 | | | 15,802 | 14,252 | | 67 | | | |
| 1960 | 5 | 136 | | 17,369 | 25,156 | | 76 | | | |
| 1961 | 4 | | | 17,437 | 18,639 | 7 | 268 | | | 0 |
| 1962 | 1 | | | 15,764 | 8,729 | 53 | 191 | | | 0 |
| 1963 | 5 | | | 13,464 | 26,420 | 59 | 218 | | | 0 |
| 1964 | 3 | | | 15,458 | 23,858 | 128 | 319 | | | 0 |
| 1965 | 15 | | | 13,701 | 41,491 | 11 | 121 | | | 0 |
| 1966 | 44 | | | 25,050 | 22,830 | 111 | 585 | | | 0 |
| 1967 | 161 | | | 28,869 | 30,481 | 89 | 520 | | | |
| 1968 | 1,028 | | | 23,961 | 16,597 | 267 | 1,109 | | | |
| 1969 | 1,365 | | | 18,006 | 31,912 | 521 | 935 | | | 0 |
| 1970 | 390 | | | 16,283 | 24,263 | 317 | 456 | | | 0 |
| 1971 | 1,746 | | | 11,524 | 52,957 | 902 | 308 | | | 0 |
| 1972 | 3,921 | | 1 | 13,043 | 60,569 | 277 | 623 | | | 100 |
| 1973 | 1,400 | | 39 | 16,795 | 68,767 | 1,353 | 495 | | | 0 |
| 1974 | 1,331 | | 224 | 13,409 | 73,564 | 161 | 879 | | | 1 |
| 1975 | 111 | | 166 | 10,318 | 52,152 | 159 | 228 | | 2,463 | 1 |
| 1976 | 278 | | 1,070 | 15,825 | 85,336 | 1,109 | 272 | | 859 | 36 |
| 1977 | 53 | | 688 | 15,696 | 31,934 | 669 | 355 | | 792 | 0 |
| 1978 | 23 | | 4,029 | 13,023 | 59,877 | 1,115 | 2,078 | | 228 | 1 |
| 1979 | 521 | | 2,856 | 14,215 | 44,662 | 125 | 1,126 | 0 | 259 | 1 |
| 1980 | 212 | | 2,986 | 14,689 | 46,742 | 329 | 1,179 | 6 | 597 | 31 |
| 1981 | 200 | | 10,348 | 17,922 | 27,426 | 252 | 663 | 16 | 459 | 8 |
| 1982 | 104 | | 12,511 | 16,767 | 29,614 | 561 | 440 | 113 | 387 | 7 |
| 1983 | 225 | | 6,852 | 15,097 | 21,098 | 350 | 118 | 233 | 454 | 33 |
| 1984 | 50 | | 8,988 | 15,060 | 26,013 | 3,380 | 511 | 516 | 136 | 113 |
| 1985 | 56 | | 11,204 | 14,351 | 20,714 | 1,533 | 305 | 576 | 291 | 49 |
| 1986 | 30 | | 7,813 | 12,928 | 16,096 | 1,542 | 626 | 726 | 241 | 3 |
| 1987 | 104 | | 6,698 | 14,702 | 19,082 | 1,205 | 155 | 817 | 182 | 7 |
| 1988 | 155 | | 9,074 | 14,731 | 6,216 | 1,208 | 134 | 1,016 | 109 | 15 |
| 1989 | 140 | | 7,437 | 13,104 | 8,629 | 2,521 | 393 | 1,023 | 81 | 2 |
| 1990 | 302 | | 6,064 | 15,789 | 8,532 | 1,995 | 249 | 1,016 | 20 | 2 |
| 1991 | 139 | | 3,401 | 17,046 | 7,103 | 2,652 | 392 | 852 | 3 | 2 |
| 1992 | 363 | | 2,721 | 19,049 | 13,888 | 4,104 | 1,527 | 271 | 43 | 10 |
| 1993 | 494 | | 287 | 29,966 | 12,797 | 2,889 | 867 | | 43 | 11 |
| 1994 | 1,998 | | 263 | 29,612 | 26,389 | 2,026 | 799 | | 43 | 6 |
| 1995 | 1,790 | | 282 | 29,080 | 20,981 | 1,177 | 937 | | 43 | 5 |
| 1996 | 3,534 | | 116 | 32,492 | 20,272 | 581 | 932 | | 43 | 21 |
| 1997 | 2,524 | | 359 | 38,988 | 32,238 | 1,068 | 1,708 | | 43 | 53 |
| 1998 | 4,240 | | 206 | 35,769 | 22,926 | 1,554 | 1,278 | | 43 | 8 |
| 1999 | (2,836) | | 289 | 33,142 | 50,369 | 6,872 | 1,018 | | (43) | 23 |
| 2000 | (4,486) | | (289) | (33,142) | 18,788 | (2,537) | (1,018) | | (43) | 92 |
| 2001 | (4,486) | | (289) | (33,142) | (18,788) | (2,537) | (1,018) | | (43) | (92) |

¹ Data are from the 17th North Pacific Albacore Workshop, December 6-13, 2000, Taipei, Taiwan except as noted.

² 1960 Canadian purse seine catch from Shaver (1962). 1994 - 2000 troll catches from Shaw, 2001.

³ Japanese pole & line catches include fish caught by research vessels. Longline catches for 1952-1960 exclude minor amounts taken by vessels under 20 metric tons. 1970 - 2000 longline, 1972 - 2000 pole & line, 1999 - 2000 gill net, purse seine, and unspecified gear catches from North Pacific Albacore Workshop Intersessional Meeting, January 2002, Nagasaki, Japan.

⁴ Korean longline catches calculated from Y. Gong (pers. comm.) using the ratio of catches in numbers, from the North Pacific. Gillnet catches for 1979-1990 are calculated by multiplying the 1991 CPUE (# fish per pok) by effort (# poks) then multiplying by average weight (1991, 1992: 4.13 kg/fish).

⁵ 1998-2000 Mexico catch from purse seine and bait boats. Catches provided by Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (M. Hinton, pers.com.).

Table 1. Continued

| YEAR | TAIWAN | | U.S. | | | | | | | OTHERS | | GRAND TOTAL |
|------|-------------|---------------------------|----------------|-------------|---------------------------|----------------|---------|--------------------|---------------|---------------------------|---------------------|-------------|
| | GILL NET | LONG ⁶ LINE | POLE & LINE | GILL NET | LONG ⁷ LINE | PURSE SEINE | SPORT | TROLL ⁸ | UNSP. GEAR | LONG ⁹ LINE | TROLL ¹⁰ | |
| 1952 | | | | | 46 | | 1,373 | 23,843 | | | | 94,198 |
| 1953 | | | | | 23 | | 171 | 15,740 | | | | 76,807 |
| 1954 | | | | | 13 | | 147 | 12,246 | | | | 61,494 |
| 1955 | | | | | 9 | | 577 | 13,264 | | | | 54,507 |
| 1956 | | | | | 6 | | 482 | 18,751 | | | | 76,464 |
| 1957 | | | | | 4 | | 304 | 21,165 | | | | 92,268 |
| 1958 | | | | | 7 | | 48 | 14,855 | | | | 55,723 |
| 1959 | | | | | 5 | | 0 | 20,990 | 5 | | | 51,333 |
| 1960 | | | | | 4 | | 557 | 20,100 | 4 | | | 63,407 |
| 1961 | | | 2,837 | | 5 | | 1,355 | 12,055 | 6 | | | 52,613 |
| 1962 | | | 1,085 | | 7 | | 1,681 | 19,752 | 8 | | | 47,271 |
| 1963 | | | 2,432 | | 7 | | 1,161 | 25,140 | 7 | | | 68,913 |
| 1964 | | 26 | 3,411 | | 4 | | 824 | 18,388 | 4 | | | 62,423 |
| 1965 | | 261 | 417 | | 3 | | 731 | 16,542 | 3 | | | 73,296 |
| 1966 | | 271 | 1,600 | | 8 | | 588 | 15,333 | 9 | | | 66,429 |
| 1967 | | 635 | 4,113 | | 12 | | 707 | 17,814 | 12 | | | 83,413 |
| 1968 | | 698 | 4,906 | | 11 | | 951 | 20,434 | 10 | | | 69,972 |
| 1969 | | 634 | 2,996 | | 14 | | 358 | 18,827 | 12 | | | 75,580 |
| 1970 | | 1,516 | 4,416 | | 9 | | 822 | 21,032 | 9 | | | 69,513 |
| 1971 | | 1,759 | 2,071 | | 11 | | 1,175 | 20,526 | 11 | | | 92,989 |
| 1972 | | 3,091 | 3,750 | | 8 | | 637 | 23,600 | 8 | | | 109,629 |
| 1973 | | 128 | 2,236 | | 14 | | 84 | 15,653 | 14 | | | 106,978 |
| 1974 | | 570 | 4,777 | | 9 | | 94 | 20,178 | 9 | | | 115,206 |
| 1975 | | 1,494 | 3,243 | | 33 | | 640 | 18,932 | 43 | | | 89,983 |
| 1976 | | 1,251 | 2,700 | | 23 | | 713 | 15,905 | 27 | | | 125,403 |
| 1977 | | 873 | 1,497 | | 37 | | 537 | 9,969 | 36 | | | 63,136 |
| 1978 | | 284 | 950 | | 54 | | 810 | 16,613 | 69 | | | 99,154 |
| 1979 | | 187 | 303 | | -- | | 74 | 6,781 | 31 | | | 71,141 |
| 1980 | -- | 318 | 382 | | -- | | 168 | 7,556 | 24 | | | 75,219 |
| 1981 | -- | 339 | 748 | | 25 | | 195 | 12,637 | 60 | | | 71,298 |
| 1982 | -- | 559 | 425 | | 105 | | 257 | 6,609 | 84 | | | 68,544 |
| 1983 | -- | 520 | 607 | | 6 | | 87 | 9,359 | 213 | | | 55,252 |
| 1984 | -- | 471 | 1,030 | | 2 | 3,728 | 1,427 | 9,304 | 138 | | | 70,867 |
| 1985 | -- | 109 | 1,498 | 2 | 0 | | 1,176 | 6,415 | 83 | | | 58,362 |
| 1986 | -- | -- | 432 | 3 | | | 196 | 4,708 | 106 | | | 45,450 |
| 1987 | 2,514 | -- | 158 | 5 | 150 | | 74 | 2,766 | 136 | | | 48,755 |
| 1988 | 7,389 | 38 | 598 | 15 | 308 | | 64 | 4,212 | 318 | | | 45,600 |
| 1989 | 8,350 | 544 | 54 | 4 | 249 | | 160 | 1,860 | 272 | | | 44,824 |
| 1990 | 16,701 | 287 | 115 | 29 | 177 | 71 | 24 | 2,603 | 181 | | | 54,157 |
| 1991 | 3,398 | 353 | 0 | 17 | 313 | 0 | 6 | 1,845 | 384 | | | 37,907 |
| 1992 | 7,866 | 300 | 0 | 0 | 337 | 0 | 2 | 4,572 | 408 | | | 55,460 |
| 1993 | | 494 | | 0 | 440 | | 25 | 6,254 | 331 | | | 54,898 |
| 1994 | | 586 | 0 | 38 | 548 | | 106 | 10,978 | 712 | | | 74,104 |
| 1995 | | 2,504 | 80 | 52 | 884 | | 102 | 8,045 | 1 | | | 66,051 |
| 1996 | | 3,594 | 24 | 83 | 1,187 | 11 | 88 | 17,030 | 0 | 1,735 | 89 | (82,190) |
| 1997 | | 4,199 | 73 | 60 | 1,653 | 2 | 1,018 | 14,252 | 1 | 2,824 | 404 | (101,466) |
| 1998 | | 4,797 | 79 | 80 | 1,120 | 33 | 1,208 | 14,410 | 1 | 5,871 | 239 | (93,862) |
| 1999 | | 4,768 | 60 | 149 | 1,541 | 48 | 3,621 | 10,186 | 1 | (6,307) | (289) | (121,562) |
| 2000 | | 5,866 | (69) | (56) | (943) | (4) | (1,798) | (9,645) | (3) | (5,871) | (562) | (85,212) |
| 2001 | | (5,866) | (306) | (95) | (954) | (51) | (1,635) | (11,170) | (2) | (6,307) | (562) | (87,344) |

⁶ 1999 - 2000 Taiwan longline catches from North Pacific Albacore Workshop Interseasonal Meeting, January 2002, Nagasaki, Japan.

⁷ U.S. Longline catches for 1981 through 2001 include landings in California and Hawaii. Hawaii longline catches for 1987 through 2000 are from Ito and Machado (2001).

⁸ U.S. troll catches for 1952-1960 include fish caught by pole & line vessels. U.S. troll catches for 1984-1988 include gillnet catches.

⁹ Other longline catches from vessels flying flags of convenience being called back to Taiwan.

¹⁰ Other troll catches from vessels registered in Belize, Cook Islands, Tonga, and Ecuador

Table 2. South Pacific albacore catches (in metric tons) by fisheries, 1952-20011. Blank indicates no effort. -- indicates data not available. 0 indicates less than 1 metric ton. Provisional estimates in ().

| YEAR | JAPAN | | | TAIWAN | | KOREA | | U.S. | | CANADA | NEW ZEALAND | | FRENCH POLYNESIA | |
|------|----------|------------------------|-------------|----------|-----------|----------|-----------|------------------------|---------|--------|-------------|---------|------------------|-------|
| | GILL NET | LONG ² LINE | POLE & LINE | GILL NET | LONG LINE | GILL NET | LONG LINE | LONG ³ LINE | TROLL | TROLL | LONG LINE | TROLL | LONG LINE | TROLL |
| 1952 | | 154 | -- | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1953 | | 803 | -- | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1954 | | 9,578 | -- | | -- | | | | | | | | | |
| 1955 | | 8,625 | -- | | -- | | | | | | | | | |
| 1956 | | 7,281 | -- | | -- | | | | | | | | | |
| 1957 | | 8,757 | -- | | -- | | | | | | | | | |
| 1958 | | 18,490 | -- | | -- | | 146 | | | | | | | |
| 1959 | | 17,385 | -- | | -- | | 456 | | | | | | | |
| 1960 | | 21,638 | 45 | | -- | | 610 | | | | | | | |
| 1961 | | 23,412 | 0 | | -- | | 330 | | | | | | | |
| 1962 | | 34,620 | 0 | | -- | | 599 | | | | | | | |
| 1963 | | 29,120 | 16 | | 608 | | 1,367 | | | | | | | |
| 1964 | | 19,390 | 0 | | 629 | | 2,911 | | | | | | | |
| 1965 | | 17,793 | 0 | | 1,640 | | 6,405 | | | | | | | |
| 1966 | | 21,627 | 0 | | 6,669 | | 10,817 | | | | | | | |
| 1967 | | 15,104 | 0 | | 11,497 | | 13,717 | | | | | 5 | | |
| 1968 | | 6,659 | 0 | | 12,254 | | 10,138 | | | | | 14 | | |
| 1969 | | 4,894 | 0 | | 9,503 | | 9,963 | | | | | -- | | |
| 1970 | | 6,507 | 0 | | 14,484 | | 11,599 | | | | | 50 | | |
| 1971 | | 4,355 | 0 | | 15,871 | | 14,482 | | | | | -- | | |
| 1972 | | 2,729 | 22 | | 16,674 | | 14,439 | | | | | 268 | | |
| 1973 | | 2,452 | 41 | | 17,741 | | 17,452 | | | | | 484 | | |
| 1974 | | 1,934 | 709 | | 16,857 | | 12,194 | | | | | 898 | | |
| 1975 | | 1,060 | 0 | | 16,056 | | 9,015 | | | | | 646 | | |
| 1976 | | 1,836 | 0 | | 13,206 | | 9,058 | | | | | 25 | | |
| 1977 | | 2,182 | 0 | | 21,429 | | 11,229 | | | | | 621 | | |
| 1978 | | 2,489 | 0 | | 20,702 | | 11,658 | | | | | 1,686 | | |
| 1979 | | 2,320 | 0 | | 14,987 | | 11,411 | | | | | 814 | | |
| 1980 | | 2,555 | 1 | | 17,998 | | 10,449 | | | | | 1,468 | | |
| 1981 | | 4,898 | 0 | | 14,390 | | 13,342 | | | | | 2,085 | | |
| 1982 | | 4,822 | 1 | | 12,634 | | 10,769 | | | | | 2,434 | | |
| 1983 | 32 | 4,991 | 0 | | 12,069 | | 7,069 | | | | | 744 | | |
| 1984 | 1,581 | 3,598 | 2 | | 11,155 | | 5,321 | | | | | 2,773 | | |
| 1985 | 1,928 | 3,676 | 0 | | 9,601 | | 13,544 | | | | | 3,253 | | |
| 1986 | 1,936 | 4,466 | 0 | | 11,913 | | 15,877 | | 92 | | | 1,911 | | |
| 1987 | 919 | 4,103 | 9 | | 15,009 | | 6,821 | | 838 | | | 1,256 | | |
| 1988 | 4,271 | 6,914 | 0 | 1,000 | 17,120 | | 6,563 | 1 | 3,657 | 235 | | 405 | | |
| 1989 | 13,263 | 5,353 | 0 | 8,520 | 10,867 | 172 | 5,151 | 0 | 3,664 | 235 | 9 | 4,361 | | 102 |
| 1990 | 5,567 | 5,466 | 0 | 1,859 | 11,619 | | 3,947 | | 3,886 | 235 | 669 | 2,342 | 20 | 299 |
| 1991 | | 4,700 | 0 | 1,394 | 16,508 | | 1,866 | 1 | 4,894 | 235 | 288 | 2,171 | 100 | 326 |
| 1992 | | 5,268 | 0 | | 20,956 | | 2,271 | | 2,956 | 235 | 300 | 3,171 | 195 | 72 |
| 1993 | | 8,294 | 12 | | 17,701 | | 1,083 | 0 | 1,010 | 235 | 909 | 2,478 | 714 | 45 |
| 1994 | | 8,883 | 2 | | 19,731 | | 0 | 35 | 2,276 | 235 | 1,588 | 3,729 | 913 | |
| 1995 | | 7,350 | 0 | | 12,775 | | 8 | 54 | 1,944 | 235 | 1,625 | 4,670 | 772 | 183 |
| 1996 | | 4,538 | 0 | | 18,454 | | 215 | 101 | 1,947 | (136) | 1,391 | 4,956 | 1,463 | 69 |
| 1997 | | 5,094 | 12 | | 19,524 | | 845 | 307 | 1,739 | (149) | 1,185 | 2,443 | 2,595 | 24 |
| 1998 | | 6,955 | 27 | | 18,416 | | 3,514 | 491 | 1,618 | (167) | 2,179 | 4,347 | 3,189 | |
| 1999 | | 7,609 | -- | | 18,245 | | 1,552 | 324 | 1,339 | (162) | 2,355 | 1,548 | 2,580 | |
| 2000 | | (7,609) | -- | | (20,981) | | 916 | 658 | 2,435 | (289) | 1,668 | 2,832 | 3,473 | |
| 2001 | | (7,609) | -- | | (20,981) | | (916) | (658) | (2,085) | (289) | (1,668) | (2,832) | (3,473) | |

¹ Data are from Lawson, 2001 except as noted.

² Japan longline catches include catches from Australia-Japan joint venture vessels.

³ 1988 - 2000 U. S. longline catches include American Samoa catches (Western Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Council, 2002).

Table 2. Continued.

| YEAR | AUSTRALIA | | NEW CALEDONIA | TONGA | FIJI | WESTERN SAMOA | SOLOMON ISLANDS | CHILE ⁵ | VANUATU | CHINA | OTHER | | GRAND TOTAL |
|------|-----------|--------------------|---------------|-----------|-----------|---------------|-----------------|--------------------|-----------|-----------|------------------------|--------------------|-------------|
| | LONG LINE | TROLL ⁴ | LONG LINE | LONG LINE | LONG LINE | LONG LINE | LONG LINE | DRIFT NET | LONG LINE | LONG LINE | LONG ⁶ LINE | TROLL ⁷ | |
| 1952 | | | | | | | | | | | | | 154 |
| 1953 | | | | | | | | | | | | | 803 |
| 1954 | | | | | | | | | | | | | 9,578 |
| 1955 | | | | | | | | | | | | | 8,625 |
| 1956 | | | | | | | | | | | | | 7,281 |
| 1957 | | | | | | | | | | | | | 8,757 |
| 1958 | | | | | | | | | | | | | 18,636 |
| 1959 | | | | | | | | | | | | | 17,841 |
| 1960 | | | | | | | | | | | | | 22,293 |
| 1961 | | | | | | | | | | | | | 23,742 |
| 1962 | | | | | | | | | | | | | 35,219 |
| 1963 | | | | | | | | | | | | | 31,111 |
| 1964 | | | | | | | | | | | | | 22,930 |
| 1965 | | | | | | | | | | | | | 25,838 |
| 1966 | | | | | | | | | | | | | 39,113 |
| 1967 | | | | | | | | | | | | | 40,323 |
| 1968 | | | | | | | | | | | | | 29,065 |
| 1969 | | | | | | | | | | | | | 24,360 |
| 1970 | | 100 | | | | | | | | | | | 32,740 |
| 1971 | | 100 | | | | | | | | | | | 34,808 |
| 1972 | | 100 | | | | | | | | | | | 34,232 |
| 1973 | | 100 | | | | | 4 | | | | | | 38,274 |
| 1974 | | 100 | | | | | | | | | | | 32,692 |
| 1975 | | 100 | | | | | | | | | | | 26,877 |
| 1976 | | 100 | | | | | 6 | | | | | | 24,231 |
| 1977 | | 100 | | | | | 9 | | | | | | 35,570 |
| 1978 | | 100 | | | | | 9 | | | | | | 36,644 |
| 1979 | | 100 | | | | | 21 | | | | | | 29,653 |
| 1980 | | 100 | | | | | 25 | | | | | | 32,596 |
| 1981 | | 5 | | | | | 2 | | | | | | 34,722 |
| 1982 | | 6 | | 106 | | | 8 | | | | | | 30,780 |
| 1983 | | 7 | 12 | 143 | | | 19 | | | | | | 25,086 |
| 1984 | | 8 | 112 | 135 | | | 19 | | | | | | 24,704 |
| 1985 | 0 | 9 | 131 | 174 | | | 12 | | | | | | 32,328 |
| 1986 | 0 | 10 | 179 | 206 | | | | | | | | | 36,590 |
| 1987 | 129 | 11 | 563 | 252 | | | | | | | | | 29,910 |
| 1988 | 107 | 12 | 584 | 242 | | | | | | 0 | | | 41,110 |
| 1989 | 93 | 13 | 566 | 195 | 3 | | | | | 0 | | | 52,567 |
| 1990 | 124 | 15 | 1,053 | 152 | 68 | | | | | 4 | | | 37,326 |
| 1991 | 158 | 20 | 909 | 171 | 208 | | | | | 0 | | 69 | 34,018 |
| 1992 | 214 | 70 | 692 | 199 | 243 | | | | | 0 | | 43 | 36,885 |
| 1993 | 186 | 55 | 755 | 231 | 463 | 213 | | | | 1 | | 41 | 34,426 |
| 1994 | 357 | 70 | 840 | 343 | 842 | 641 | | | | 9 | 21 | 107 | 40,622 |
| 1995 | 438 | 25 | 332 | 379 | 702 | 1,883 | 24 | 15 | 109 | 14 | 32 | 140 | 33,709 |
| 1996 | 408 | (25) | 414 | 494 | 1,446 | 1,775 | 100 | 21 | 192 | 12 | 52 | 276 | (38,486) |
| 1997 | 302 | (25) | 277 | (494) | 1,842 | 4,108 | 109 | 0 | 95 | 13 | 99 | 405 | (41,685) |
| 1998 | 460 | (35) | 860 | (494) | 2,121 | 4,742 | 370 | 0 | (10) | 7 | 42 | 405 | (50,449) |
| 1999 | 359 | (25) | 690 | (494) | 2,279 | 4,027 | 136 | 0 | -- | 3,473 | 79 | 156 | (47,433) |
| 2000 | 381 | (25) | (895) | (494) | 5,224 | 4,067 | 193 | 0 | -- | 2,056 | (26) | (469) | (54,691) |
| 2001 | (381) | (25) | (895) | (494) | (5,224) | (4,067) | (193) | (0) | -- | (2,056) | (26) | (469) | (54,340) |

⁴ Australia troll catches from 1970 to 1980 are incidental catches from pole-and-line vessels targeting southern bluefin tuna. 1981-1998 catches include recreational catches.

⁵ Chile gill net catches are from (R. Serra, pers. comm.).

⁶ Other longline includes catches from Cook Islands and Papua New Guinea.

⁷ Other troll includes catches from Fiji, Cook Islands, Belize, Sweden, Tonga, Ecuador, and French Polynesian Bonitiers and Poti Marara vessels.

Table 3. Fishery statistics for the U.S. North Pacific albacore troll fishery.

| FISHING SEASON | NO. TRIPS | | CATCH (Metric Tons) | | NO. FISH LANDED | | AVG FL (cm) | AVG WT (lb) | EFFORT | | CPUE (fish/day) | SAMPLING COVERAGE | |
|----------------|-----------|---------|---------------------|---------|-----------------|----------|-------------|-------------|----------|-------------|-----------------|-------------------|------|
| | TOTAL | SAMPLED | TOTAL | SAMPLED | TOTAL | MEASURED | | | NO. DAYS | NO. VESSELS | | LOG | L-F |
| 1992 | 1,590 | 300 | 4,572 | 1,940 | 864,041 | 25,053 | 63.7 | 11.7 | 17,032 | 603 | 51 | 42% | 2.9% |
| 1993 | 2,176 | 174 | 6,254 | 1,290 | 910,470 | 204 | 69.5 | 15.1 | 23,988 | 609 | 38 | 21% | 0.0% |
| 1994 | 2,281 | 407 | 10,978 | 4,620 | 1,455,364 | 1,117 | 71.7 | 16.6 | 23,466 | 713 | 62 | 42% | 0.1% |
| 1995 | 993 | 354 | 7,567 | 4,930 | 1,114,667 | 16,221 | 69.2 | 15.0 | 23,630 | 517 | 47 | 65% | 1.5% |
| 1996 | 1,678 | 413 | 17,030 | 7,030 | 2,950,060 | 35,069 | 65.5 | 12.7 | 32,011 | 709 | 92 | 41% | 1.2% |
| 1997 | 3,496 | 492 | 14,014 | 5,442 | 2,015,270 | 32,071 | 69.7 | 15.3 | 44,787 | 1,193 | 45 | 39% | 1.6% |
| 1998 | 2,105 | 266 | 14,138 | 5,060 | 2,170,421 | 16,505 | 68.2 | 14.4 | 20,130 | 787 | 108 | 36% | 0.8% |
| 1999 | 2,348 | 390 | 10,141 | 3,467 | 1,272,568 | 15,278 | 73.0 | 17.6 | 34,296 | 736 | 37 | 34% | 1.2% |
| 2000 | 2,043 | 421 | 9,645 | 3,997 | 1,438,697 | 13,453 | 68.9 | 14.8 | 37,072 | 659 | 39 | 41% | 0.9% |
| 2001 | 3,114 | 414 | 11,170 | 3,080 | 1,695,545 | 14,105 | 68.5 | 14.5 | 24,884 | 870 | 68 | 28% | 0.8% |

Table 4. Fishery statistics for the U.S. South Pacific albacore troll fishery.¹

| FISHING SEASON | NO. TRIPS | | CATCH ² (Metric Tons) | | NO. FISH LANDED | | AVG FL (cm) | AVG WT (lb) | EFFORT | | CPUE (fish/day) | SAMPLING COVERAGE | |
|----------------|-----------|---------|----------------------------------|---------|-----------------|----------|-------------|-------------|----------|-------------|-----------------|-------------------|------|
| | TOTAL | SAMPLED | TOTAL | SAMPLED | TOTAL | MEASURED | | | NO. DAYS | NO. VESSELS | | LOG | L-F |
| 1991-92 | 56 | 39 | 3,083 | 1,702 | 693,803 | 5,009 | 68 | 14 | 6,888 | 54 | 68 | 63% | 1.1% |
| 1992-93 | 43 | 8 | 1,036 | 213 | 469,296 | 1,720 | 63 | 11 | 4,433 | 44 | 45 | 19% | 0.9% |
| 1993-94 | 12 | 7 | 2,477 | 345 | 199,519 | 996 | 66 | 13 | 4,311 | 13 | 97 | 10% | 0.2% |
| 1994-95 | 42 | 22 | 1,959 | 1,142 | 418,736 | 1,460 | 70 | 15 | 1,867 | 21 | 150 | 59% | 0.5% |
| 1995-96 | 48 | 30 | 2,206 | 1,101 | 279,378 | 2,226 | 70 | 15 | 4,498 | 53 | 71 | 51% | 0.7% |
| 1996-97 | 25 | 18 | 1,821 | 938 | 318,973 | 1,558 | 67 | 14 | 3,776 | 27 | 78 | 52% | 0.5% |
| 1997-98 | 39 | 31 | 1,749 | 1,168 | 295,132 | 200 | 67 | 14 | 5,353 | 37 | 53 | 63% | 0.1% |
| 1998-99 | 24 | 12 | 1,381 | 525 | 193,130 | 790 | 70 | 16 | 2,493 | 21 | 77 | 37% | 0.4% |
| 1999-2000 | 37 | 26 | 2,562 | 1,572 | 326,783 | 1,355 | 73 | 17 | 4,663 | 36 | 70 | 61% | 0.4% |
| 2000-2001 | 37 | 28 | 2,128 | 1,371 | 290,127 | 3,670 | 71 | 16 | 6,017 | 33 | 48 | 64% | 1.3% |

¹ Data for seasons before 1996-97 may include non-U.S. vessels.² Total catches for U.S. South Pacific albacore troll fishery may include catch from November and December of the previous year.

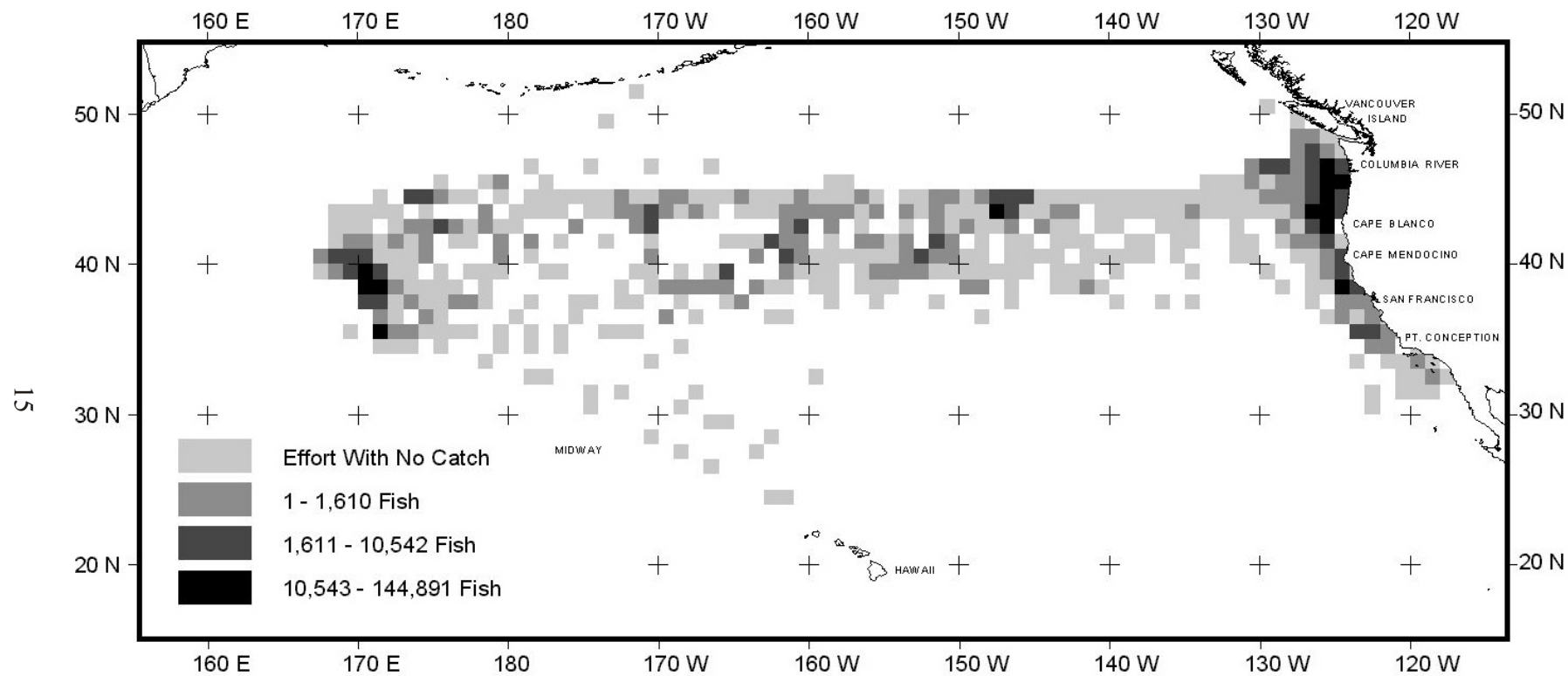


Figure 1. Distribution of albacore catches by U. S. troll vessels in the 2001 North Pacific season.

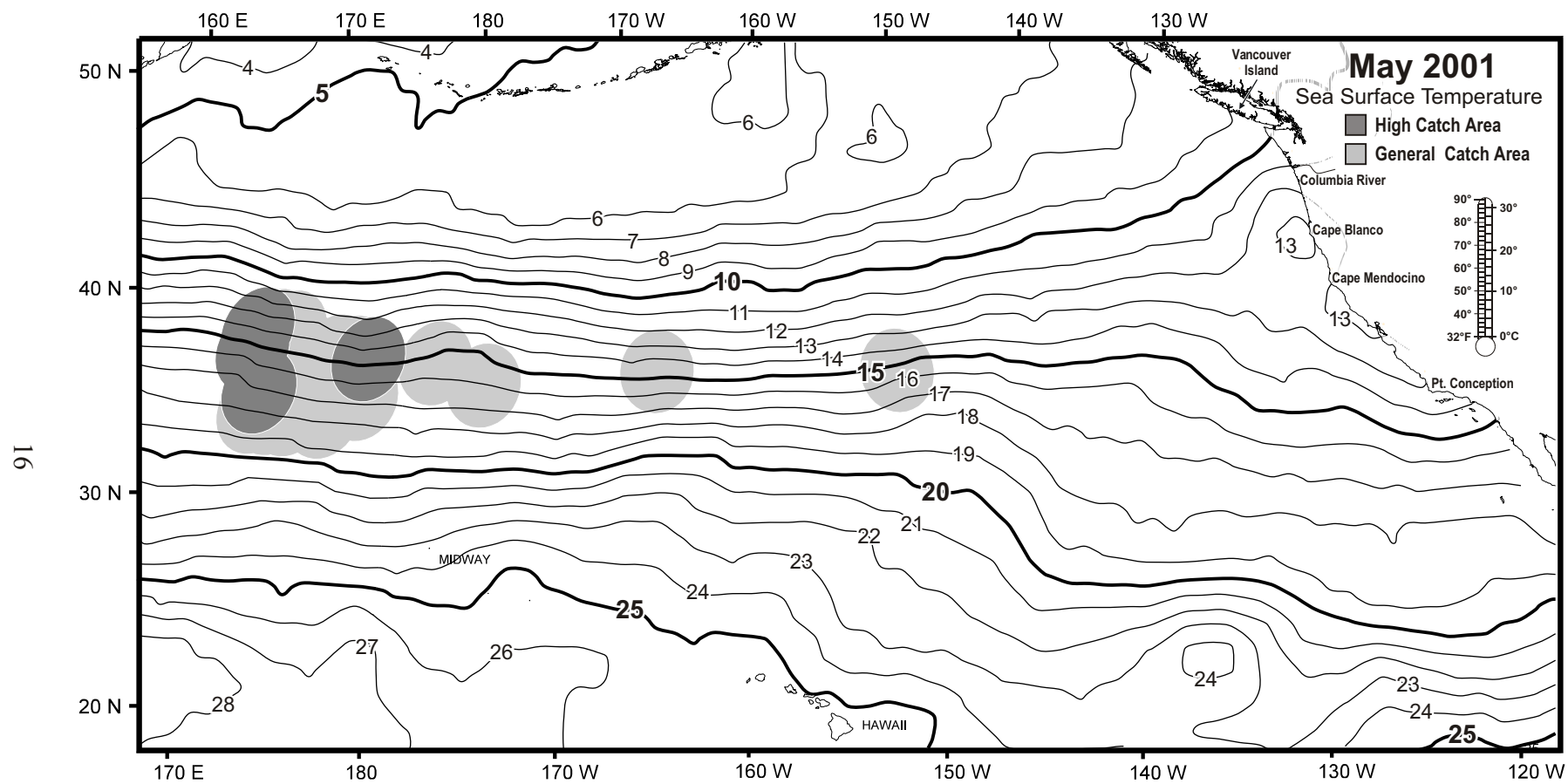


Figure 2a. Distribution of albacore catches and sea surface temperatures in May 2001.

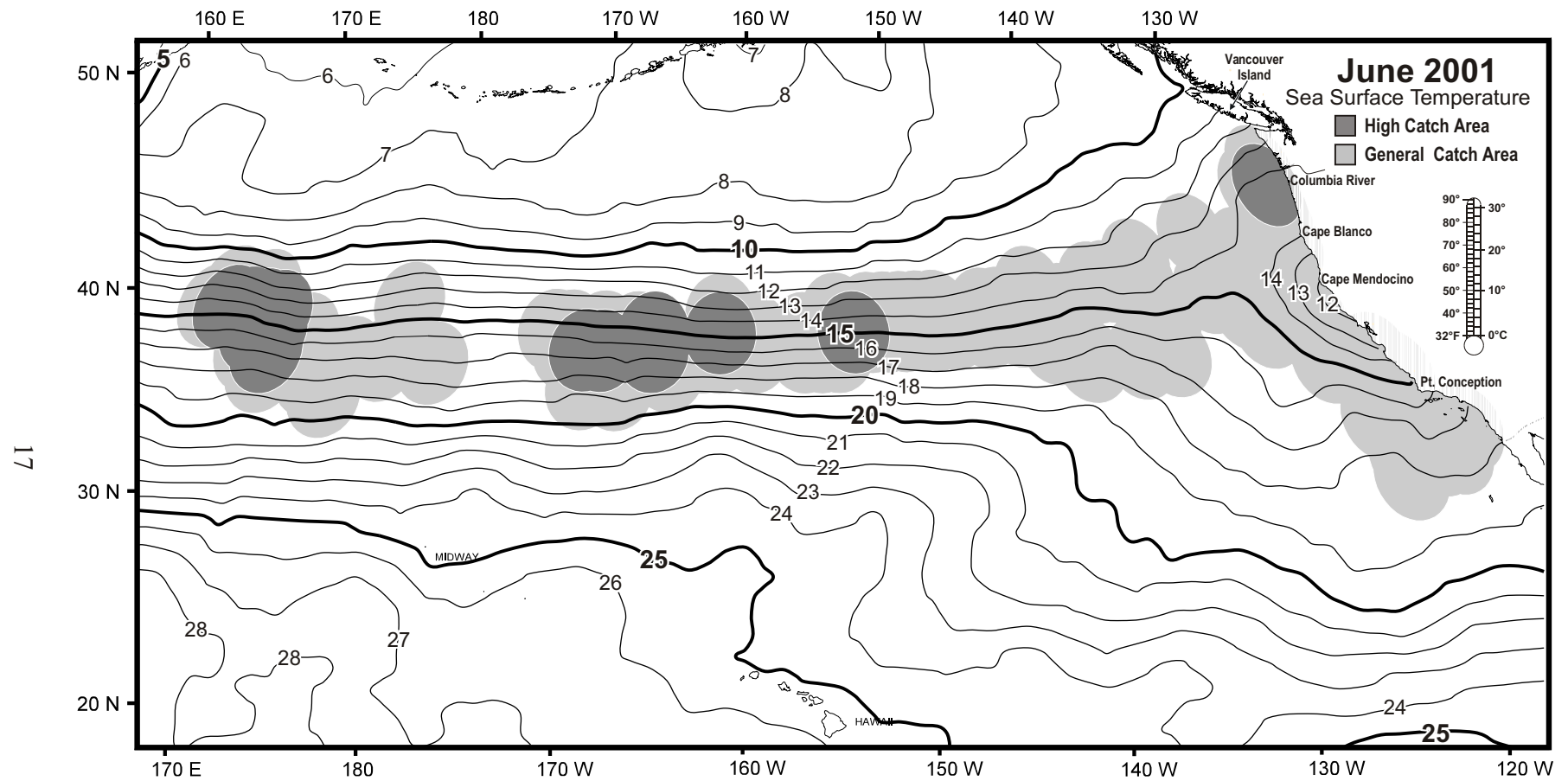


Figure 2b. Distribution of albacore catches and sea surface temperatures in June 2001.

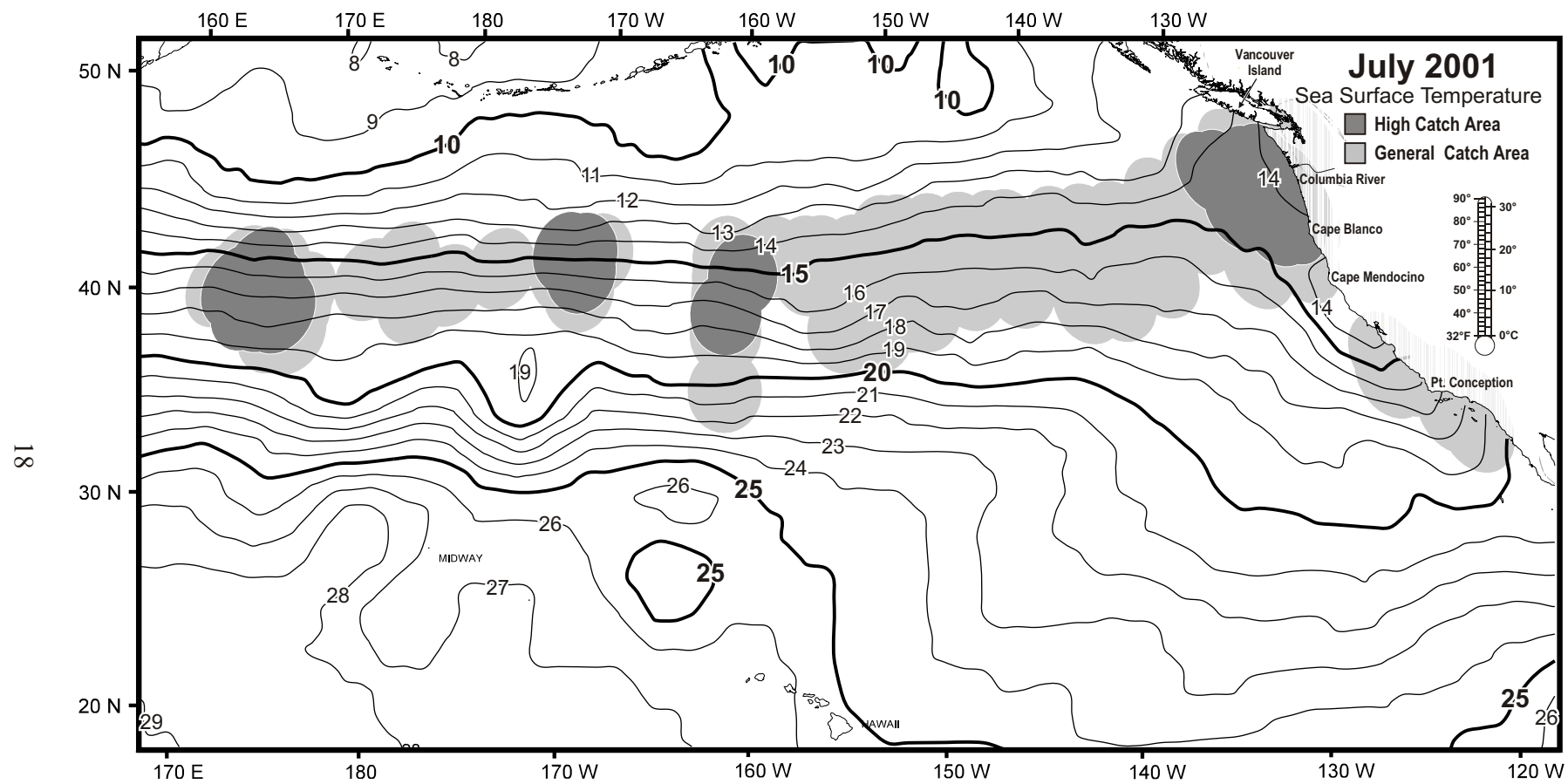


Figure 2c. Distribution of albacore catches and sea surface temperatures in July 2001.

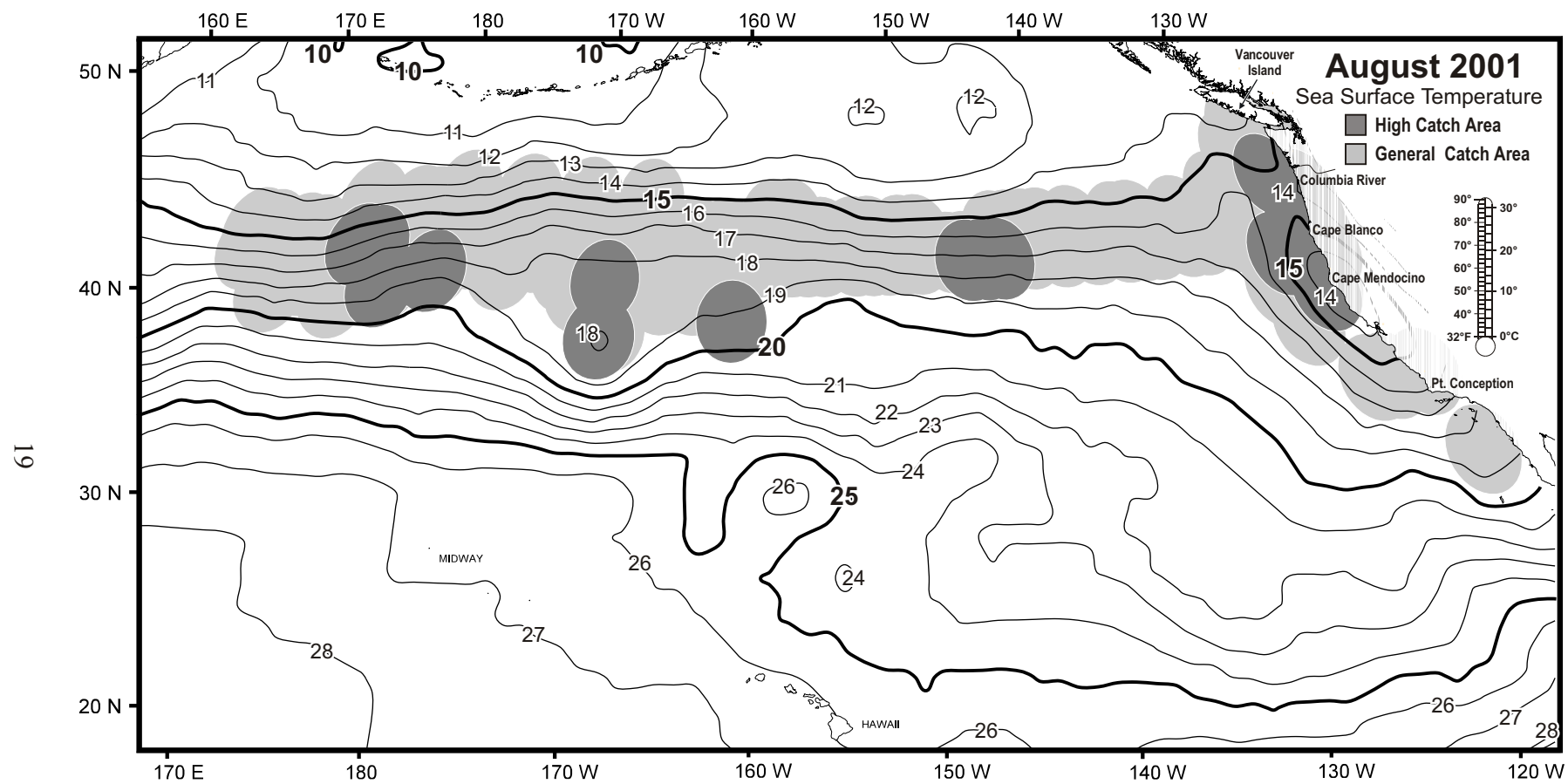


Figure 2d. Distribution of albacore catches and sea surface temperatures in August 2001.

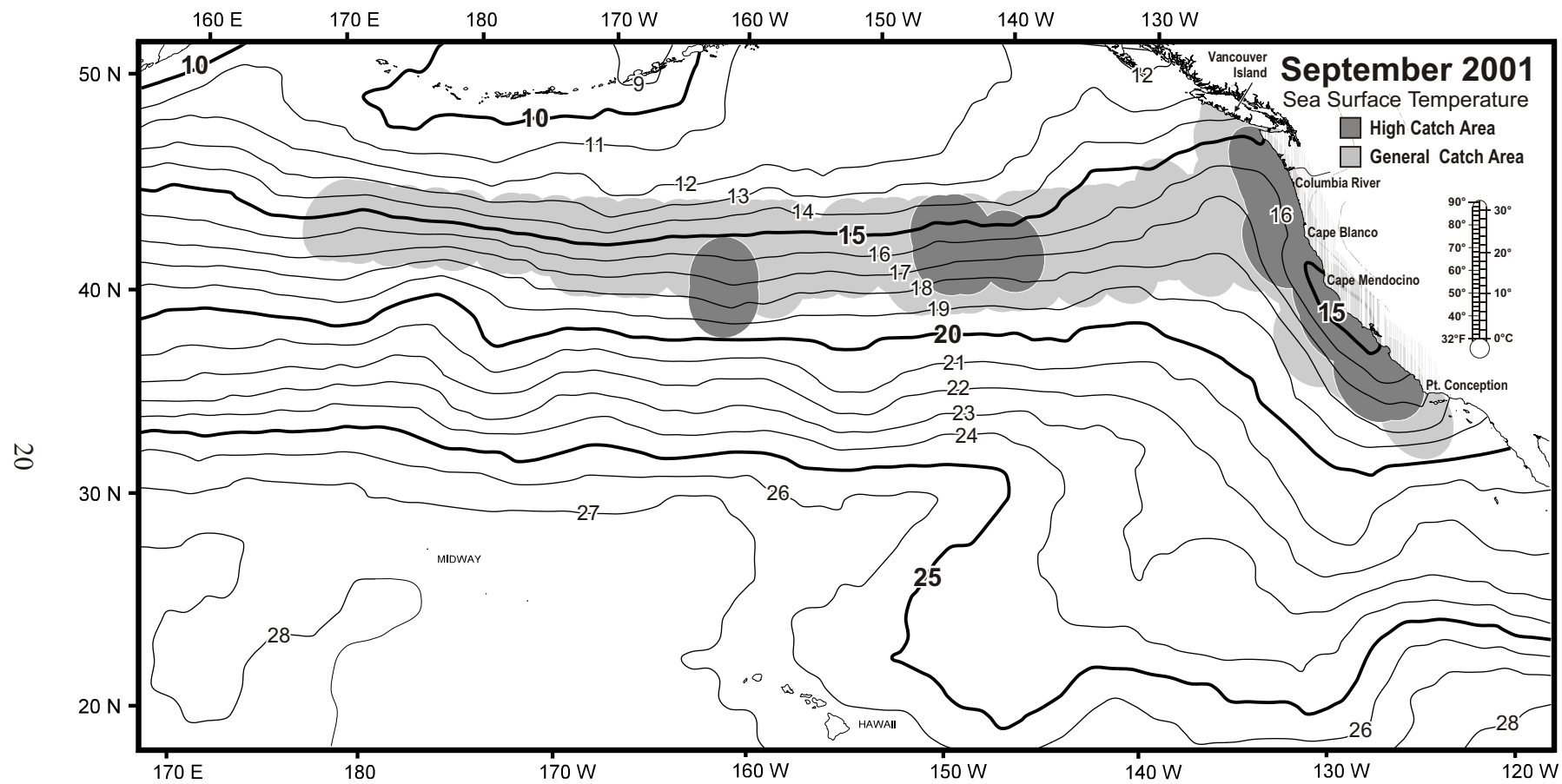


Figure 2e. Distribution of albacore catches and sea surface temperatures in September 2001.

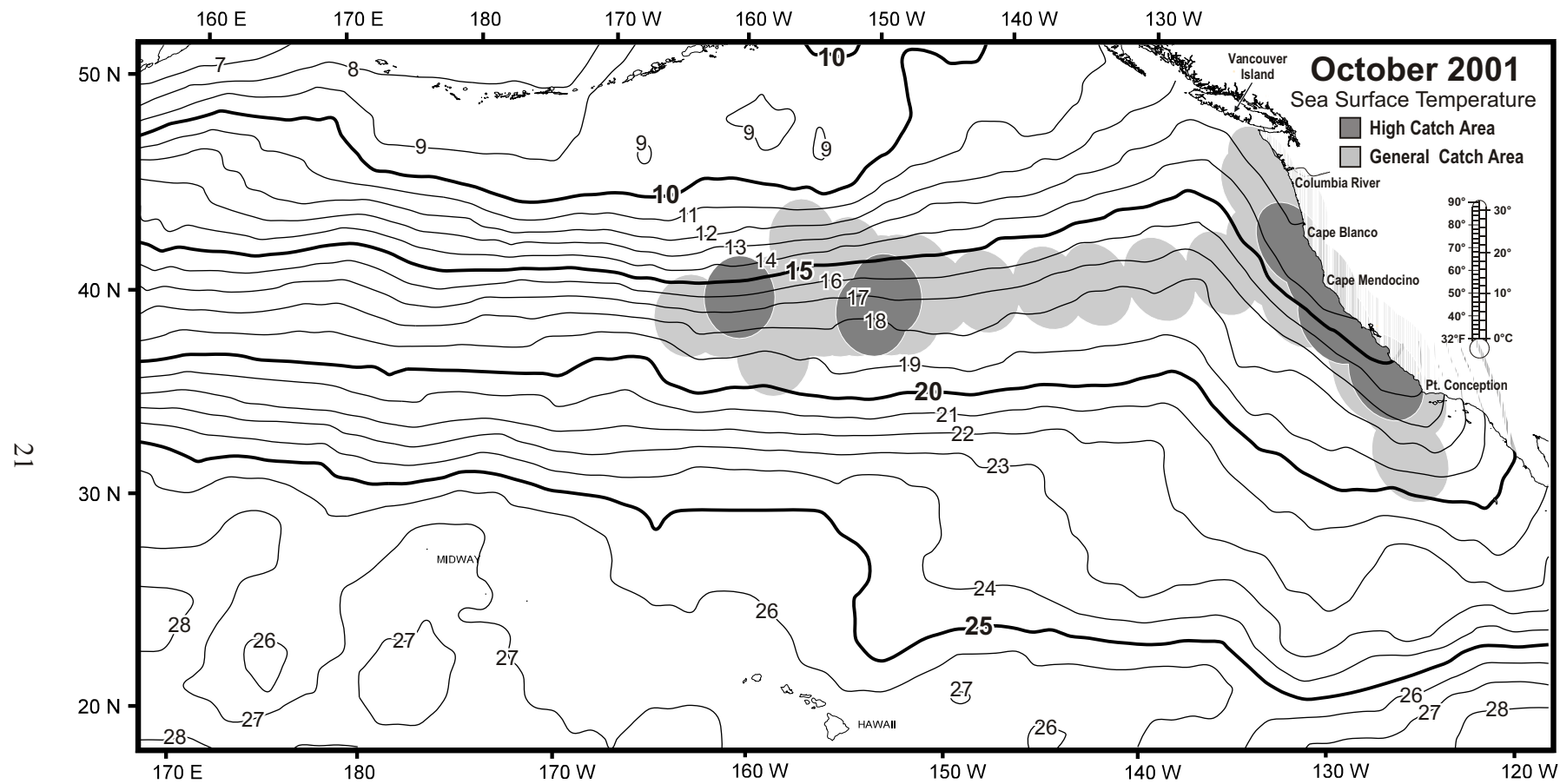


Figure 2f. Distribution of albacore catches and sea surface temperatures in October 2001.

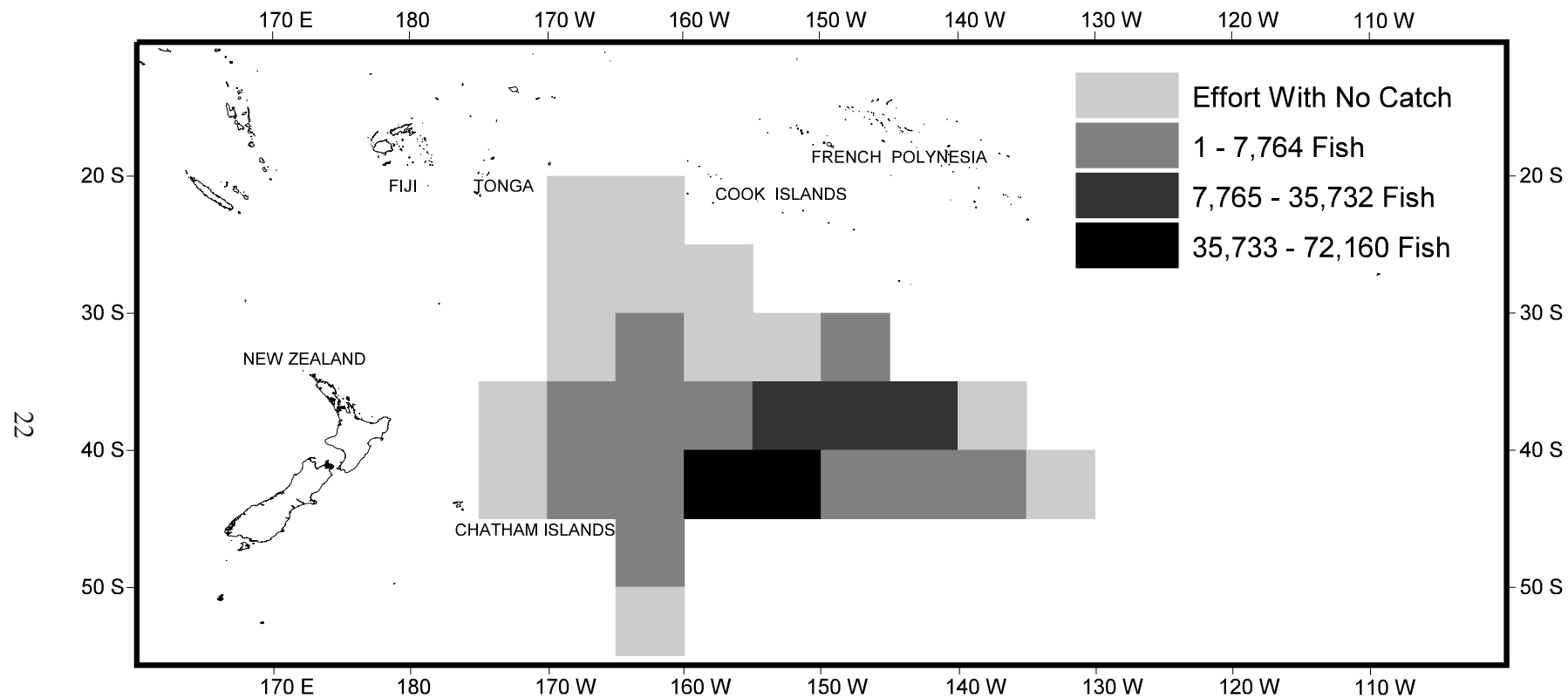


Figure 3a. Distribution of albacore catches by U. S. troll vessels in the 2000-2001 South Pacific season.

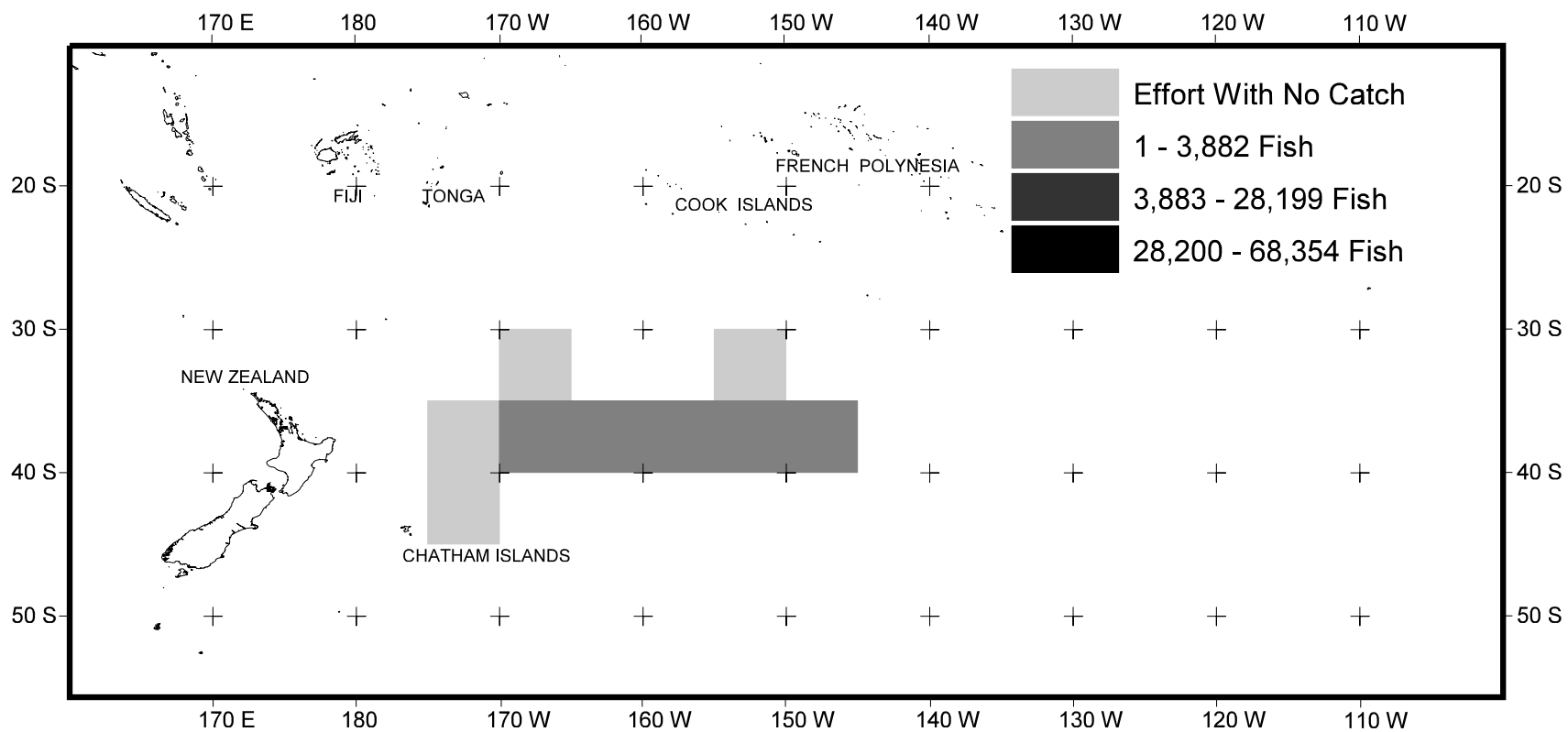


Figure 3b. Distribution of albacore catches by U. S. troll vessels in December 2000.

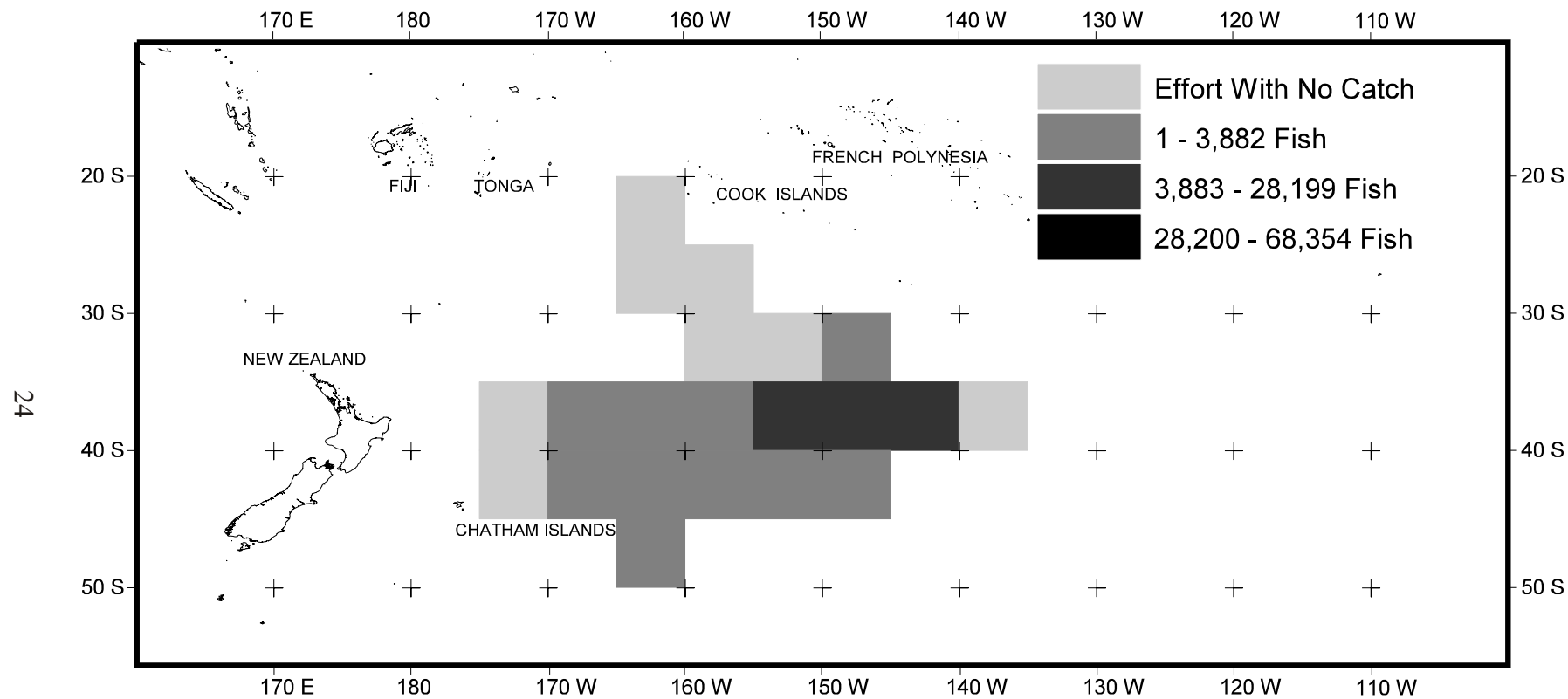


Figure 3c. Distribution of albacore catches by U. S. troll vessels in January 2001.

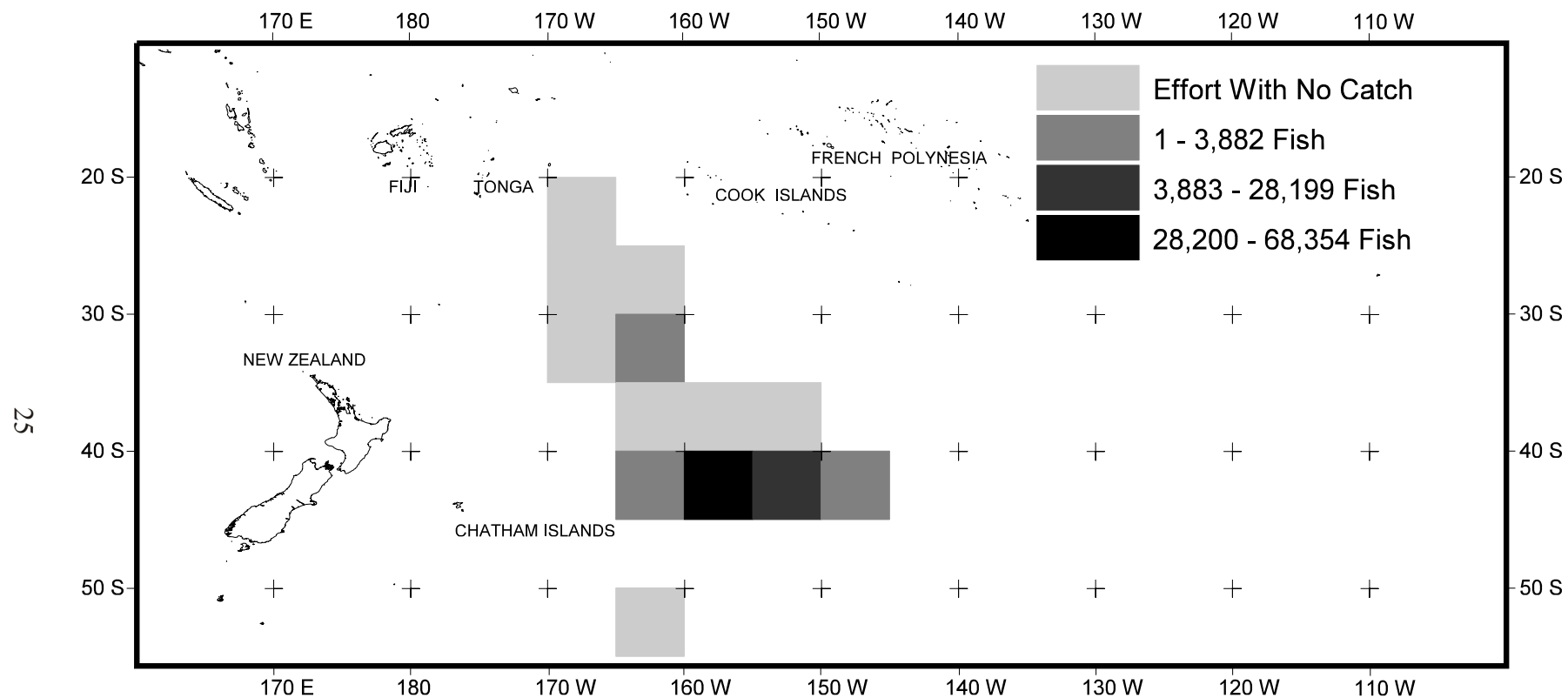


Figure 3d. Distribution of albacore catches by U. S. troll vessels in February 2001.

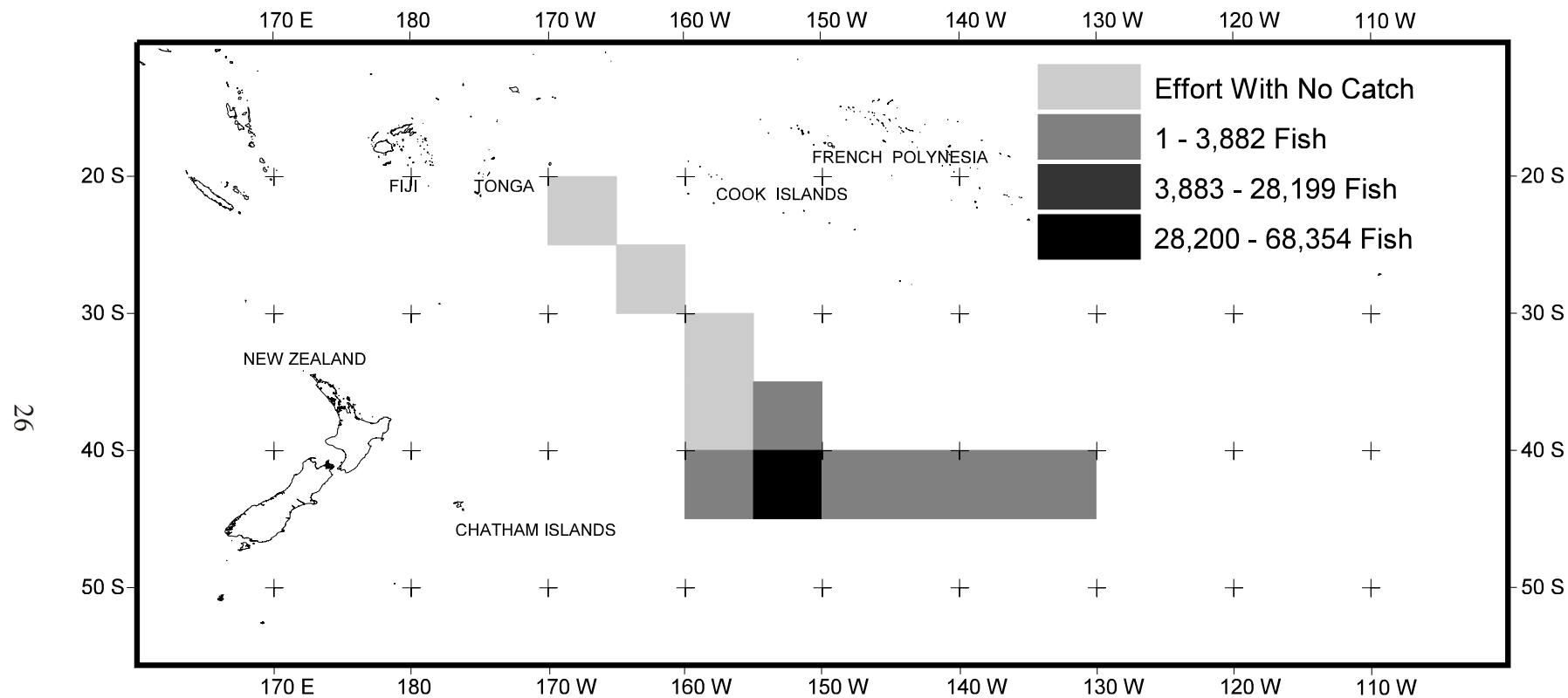


Figure 3e. Distribution of albacore catches by U. S. troll vessels in March 2001.

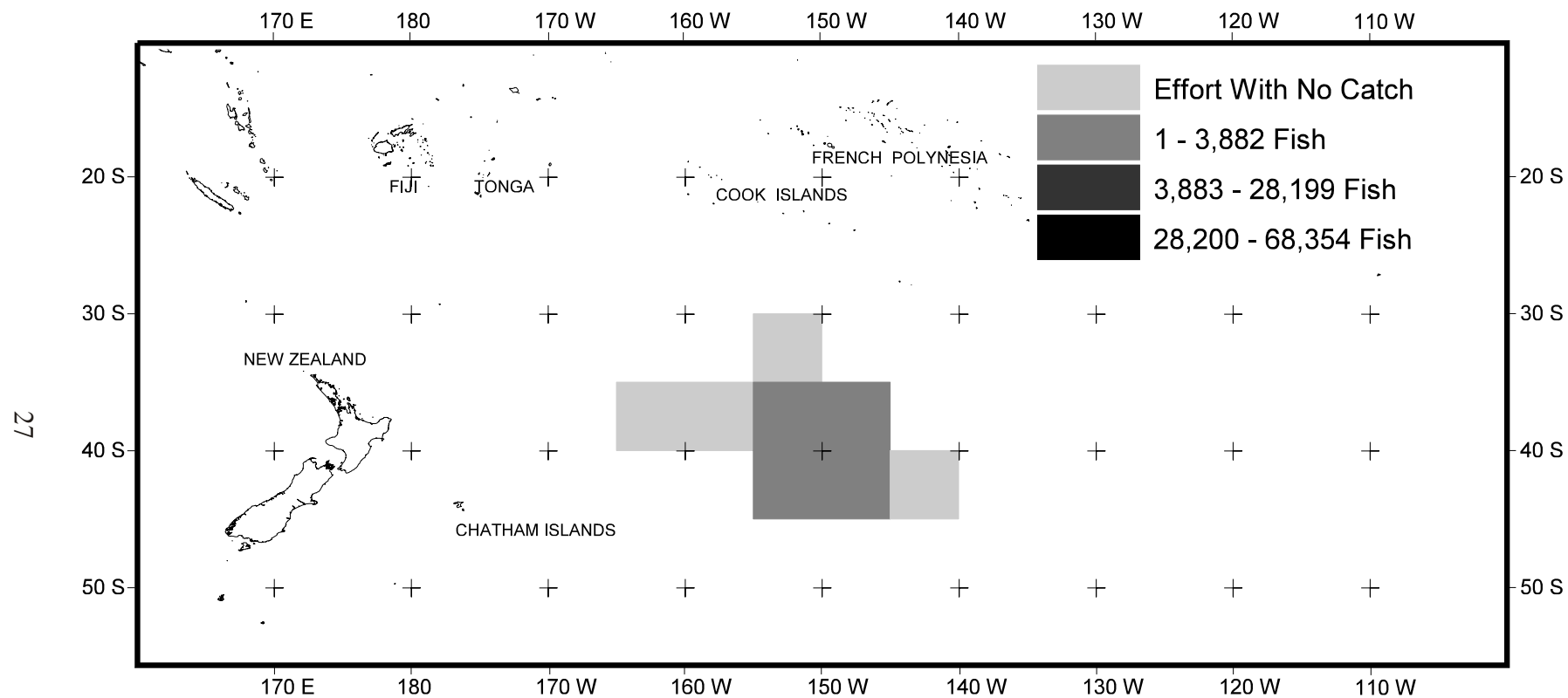


Figure 3f. Distribution of albacore catches by U. S. troll vessels in April 2001.

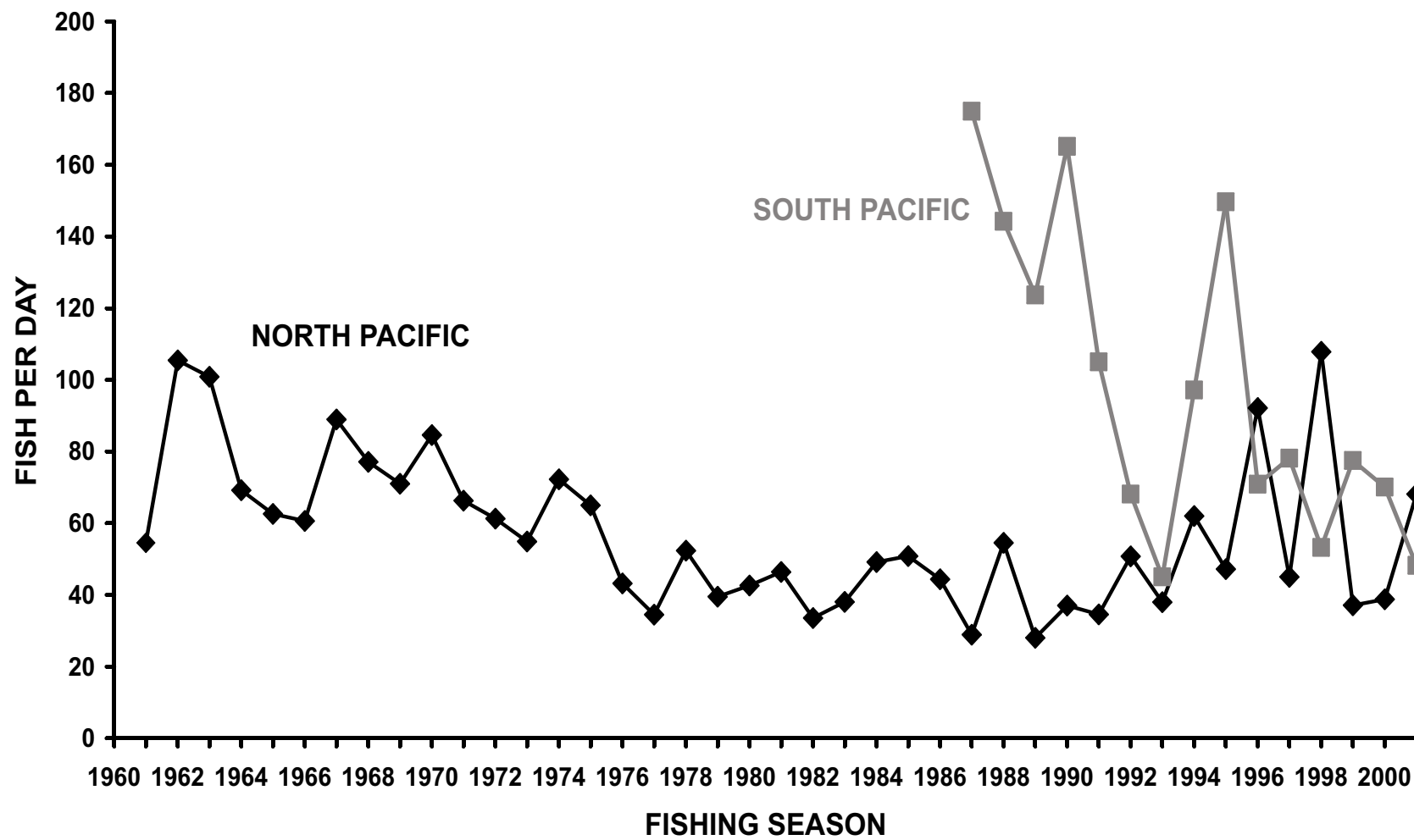


Figure 4. North and South Pacific albacore CPUEs by U. S. troll vessels from 1961 through 2001.

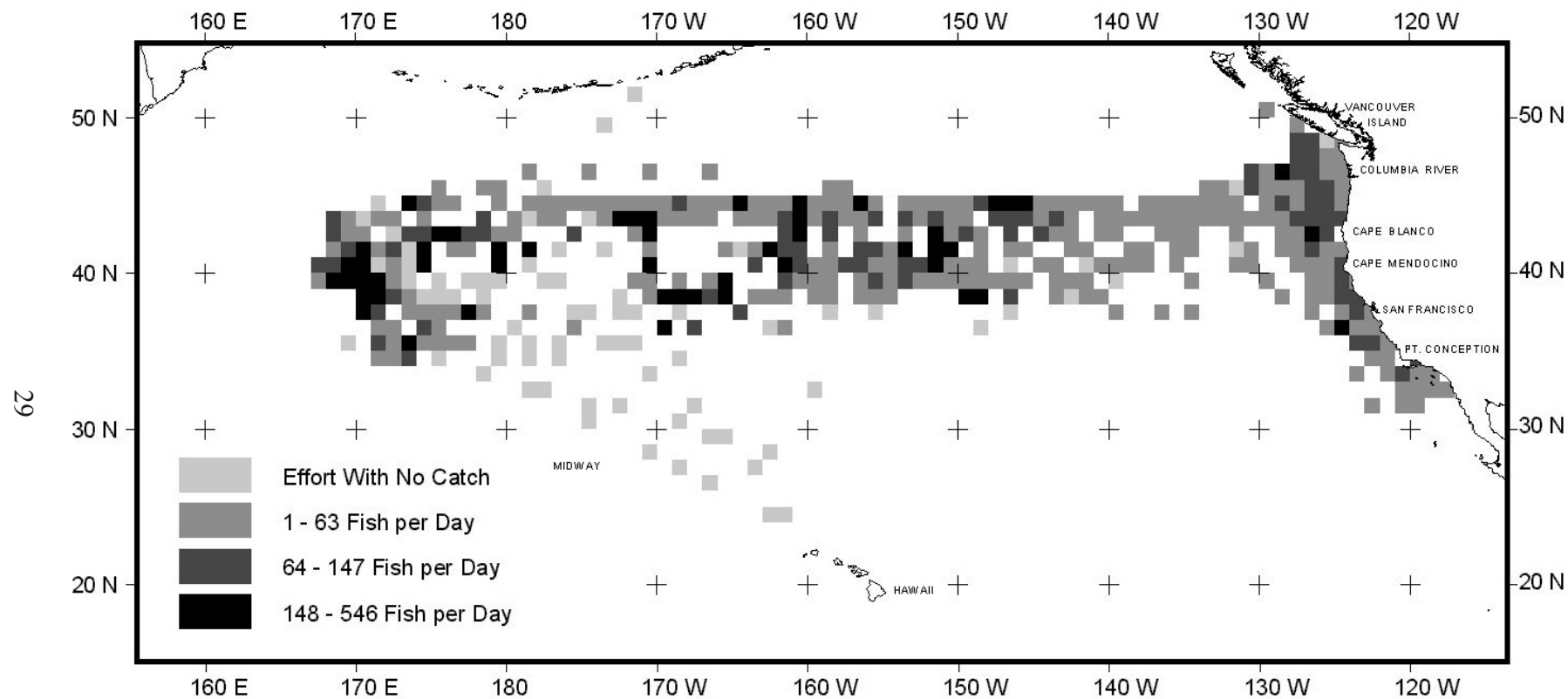


Figure 5a. Distribution of albacore CPUEs by U. S. troll vessels in the 2001 North Pacific season.

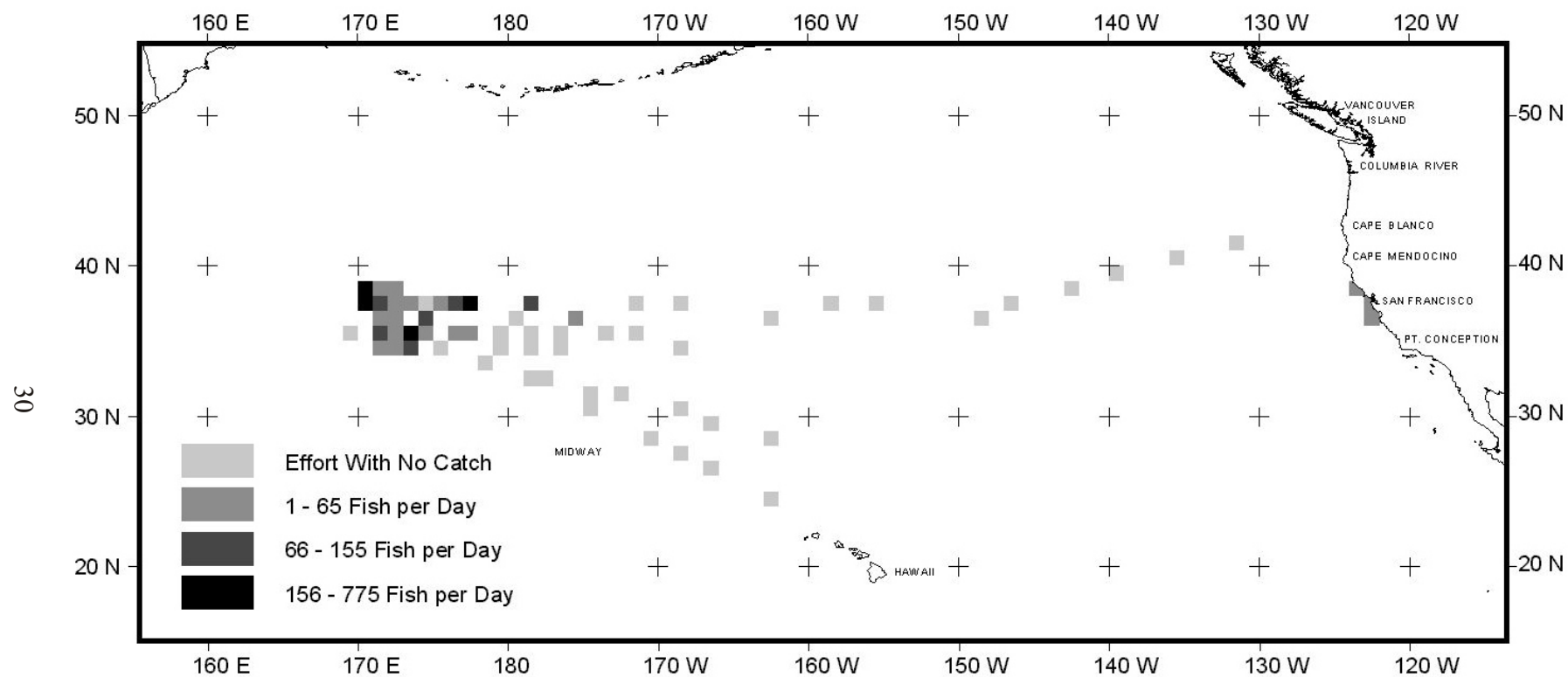


Figure 5b. Distribution of albacore CPUE by U. S. troll vessels in May 2001.

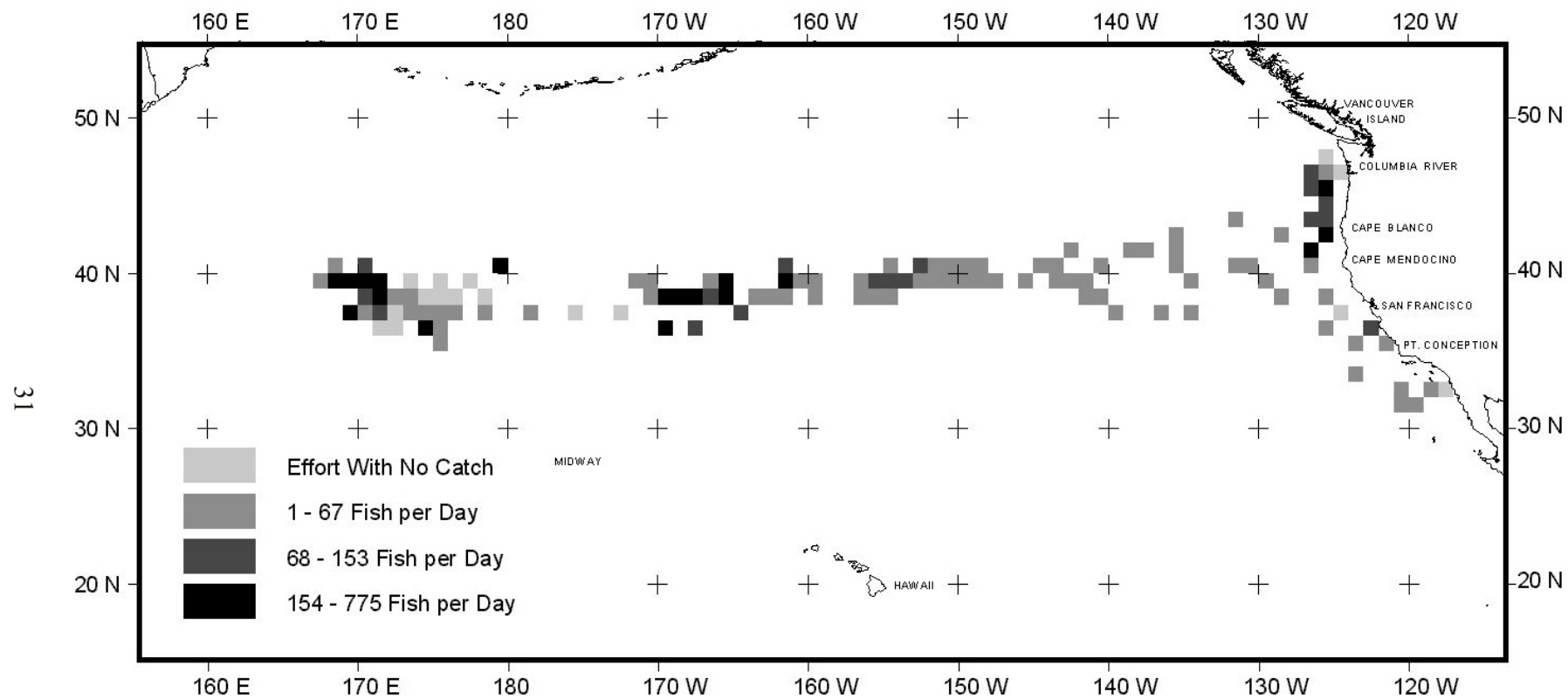


Figure 5c. Distribution of albacore CPUE by U. S. troll vessels in June 2001.

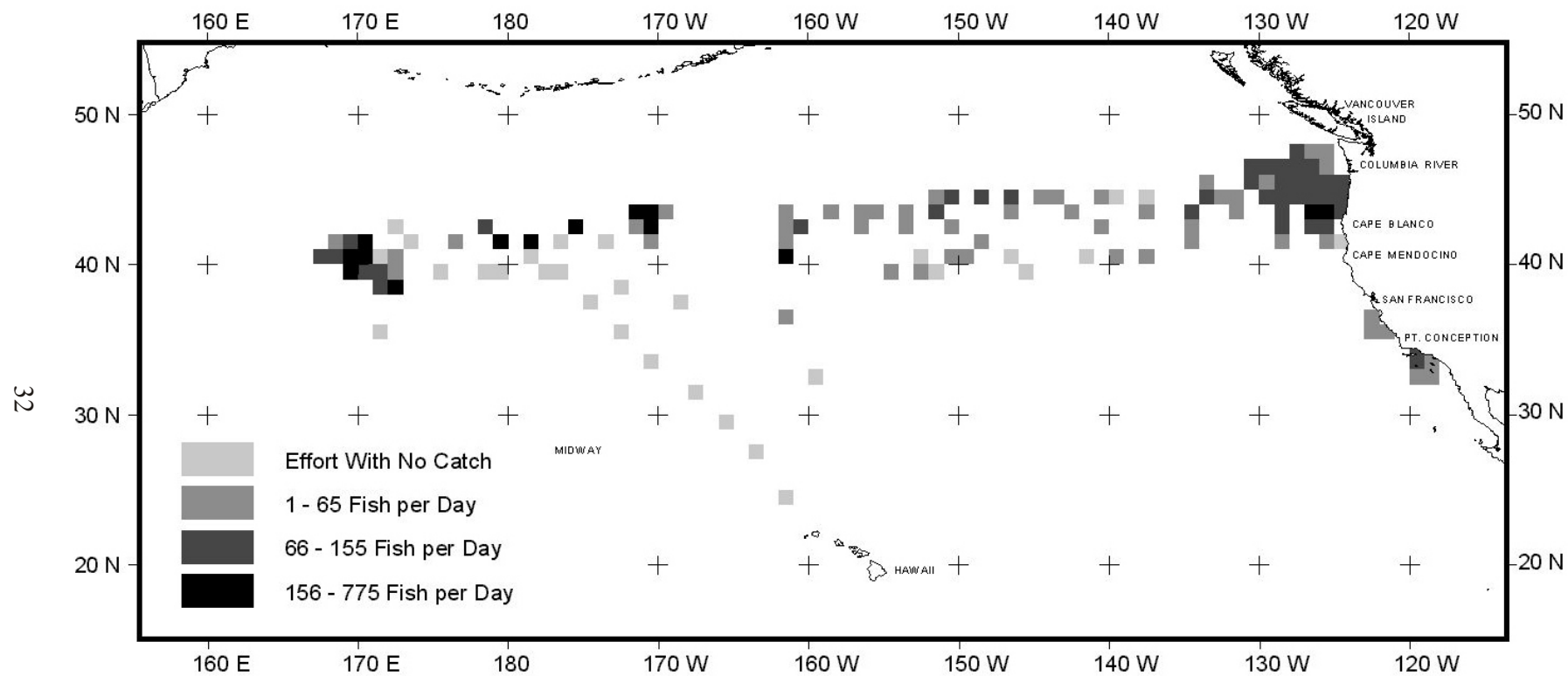


Figure 5d. Distribution of albacore CPUE by U. S. troll vessels in July 2001.

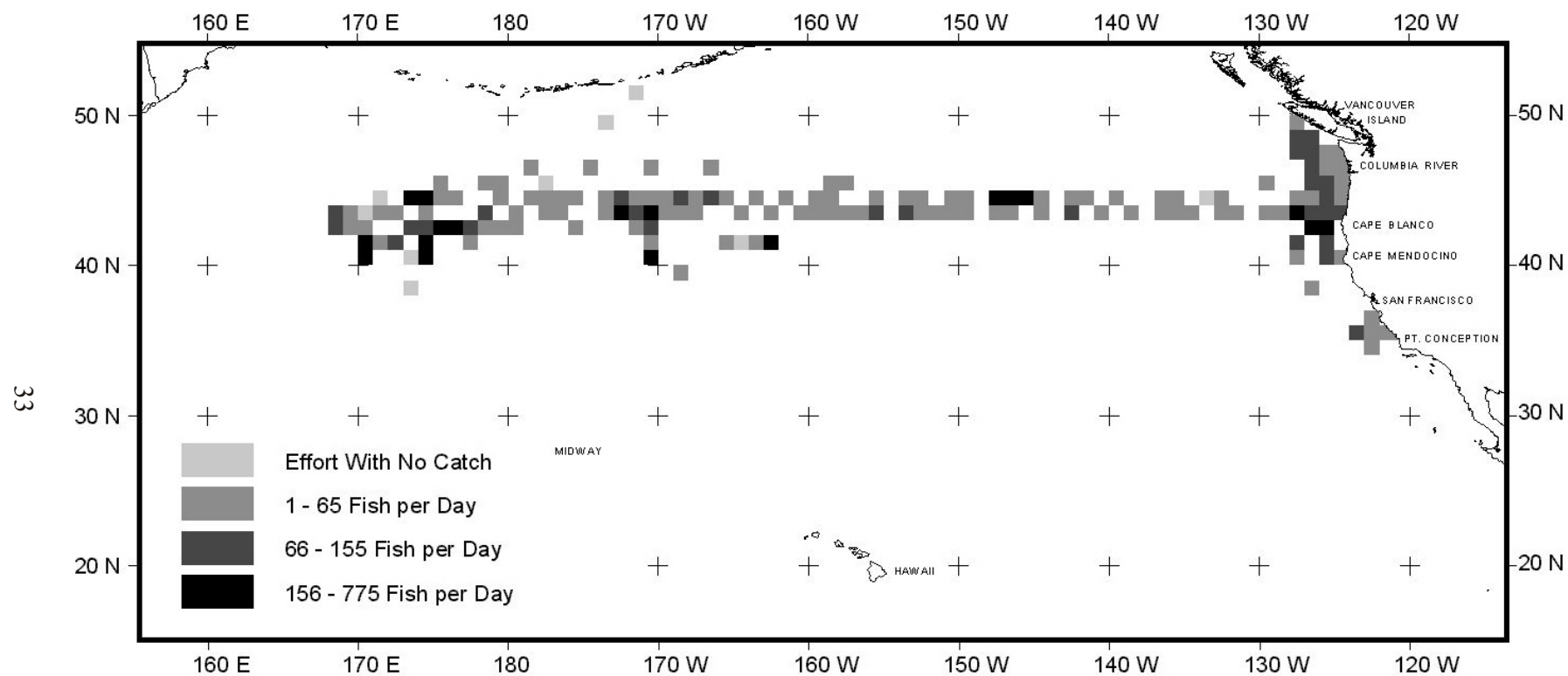


Figure 5e. Distribution of albacore CPUE by U. S. troll vessels in August 2001.

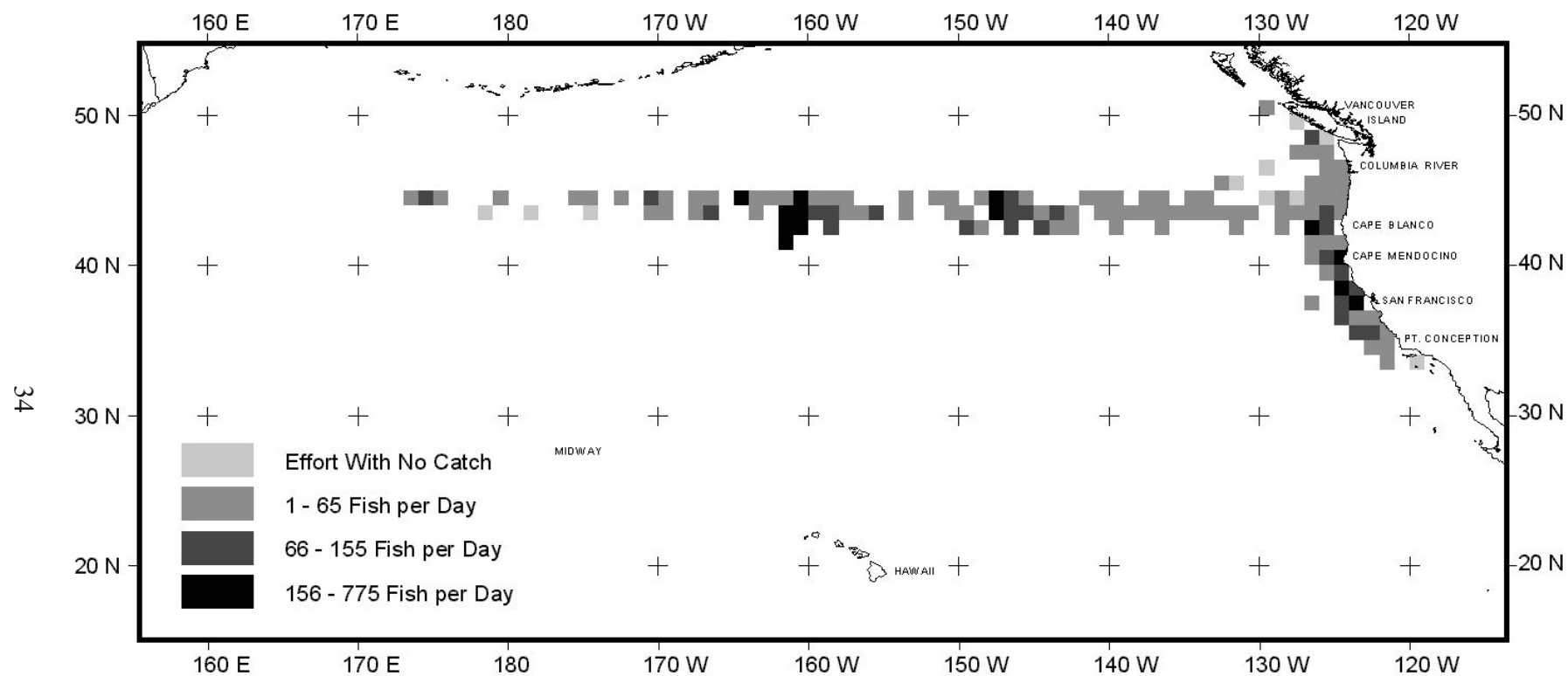


Figure 5f. Distribution of albacore CPUE by U. S. troll vessels in September 2001.

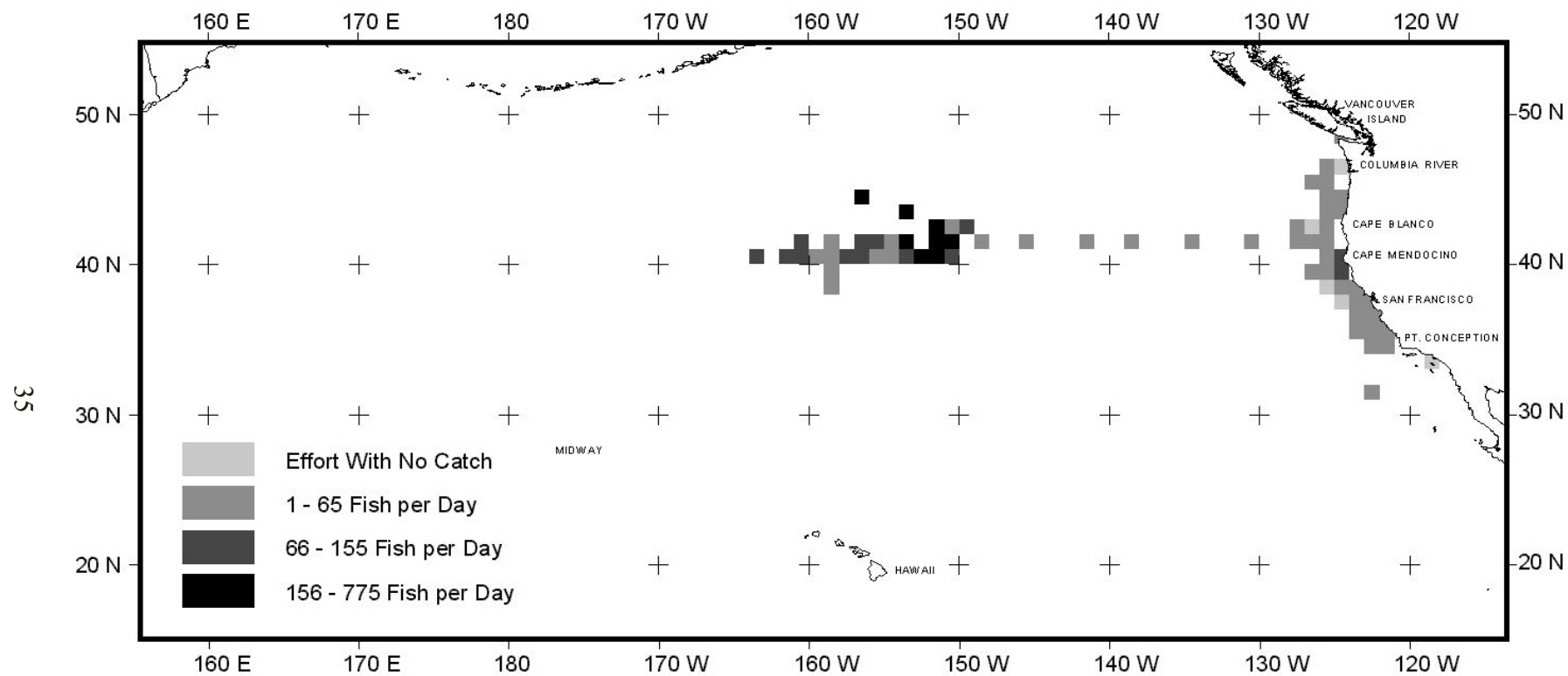


Figure 5g. Distribution of albacore CPUE by U. S. troll vessels in October 2001.

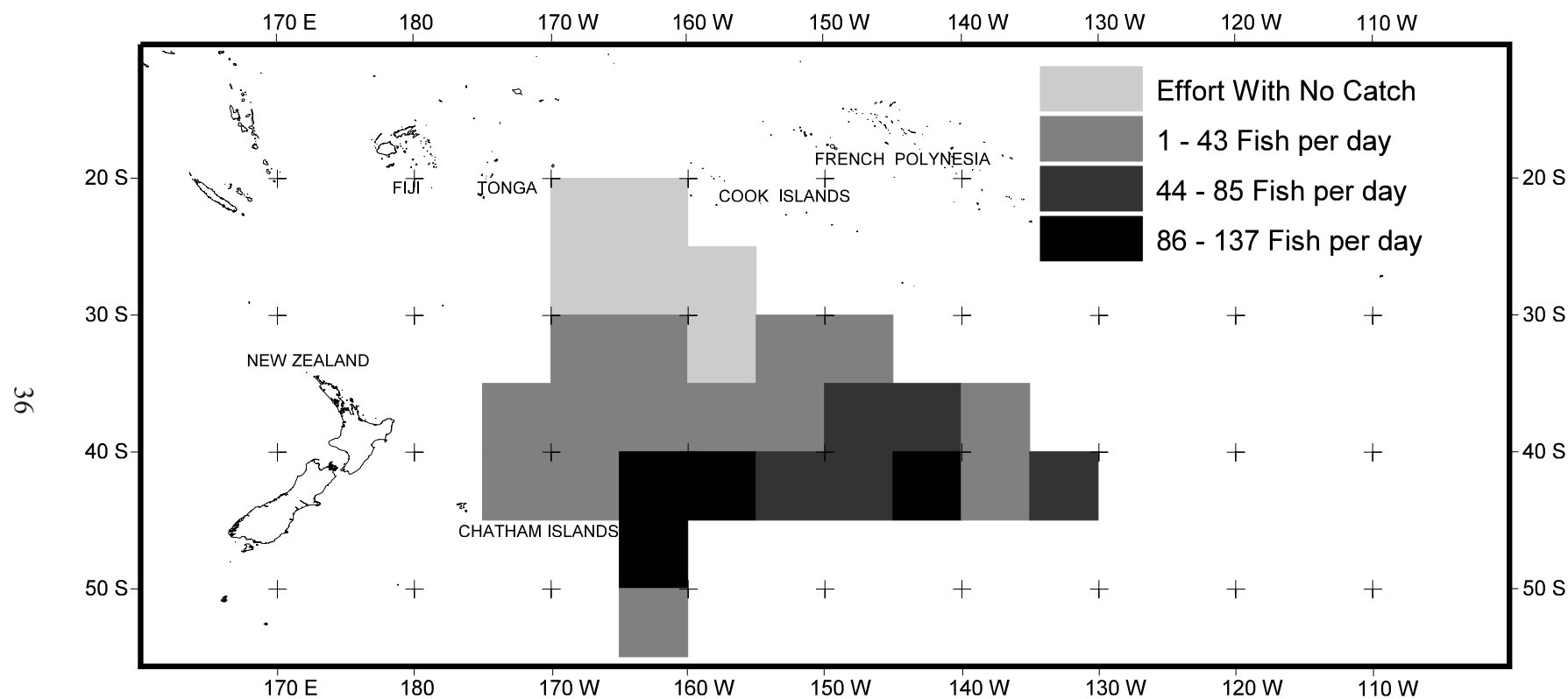


Figure 6a. Distribution of albacore CPUE by U. S. troll vessels in the 2000-2001 South Pacific season.

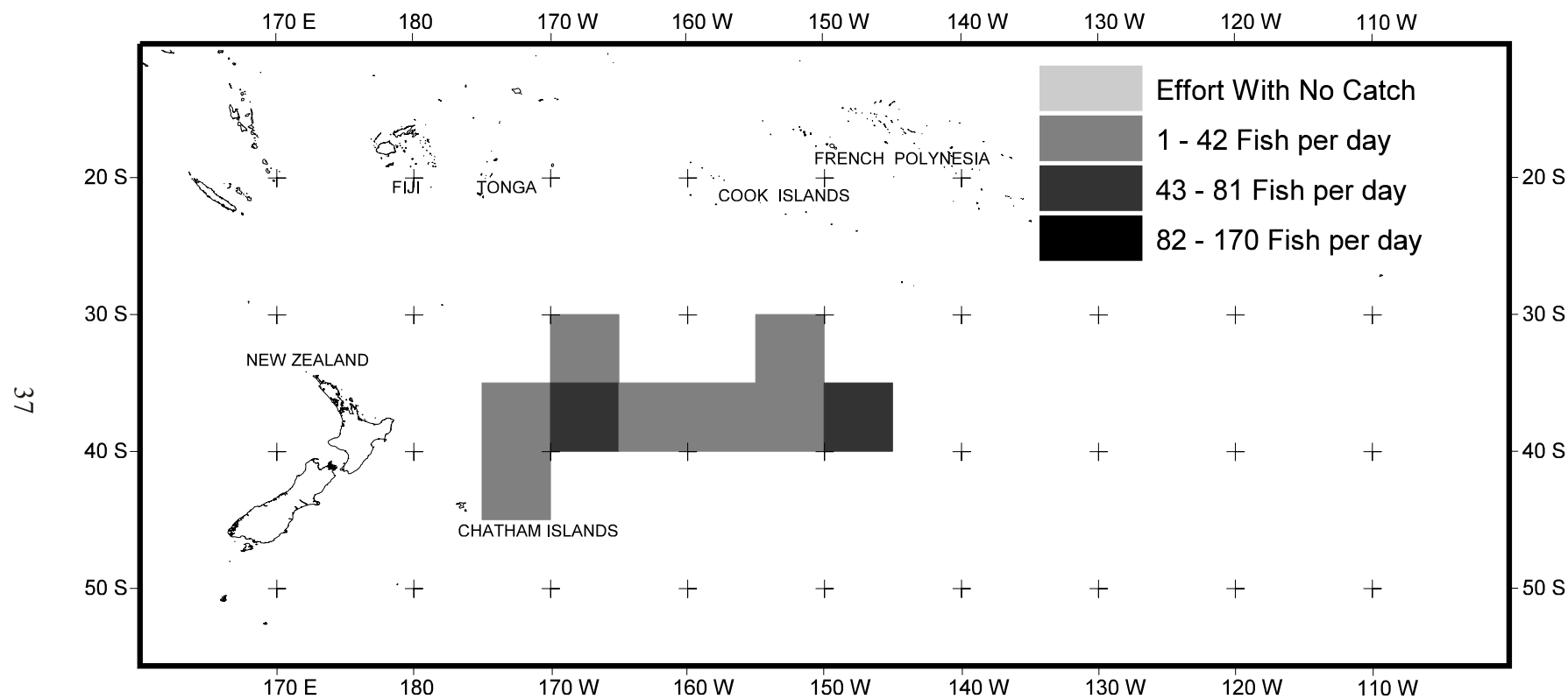


Figure 6b. Distribution of albacore CPUE by U. S. troll vessels in December 2000.

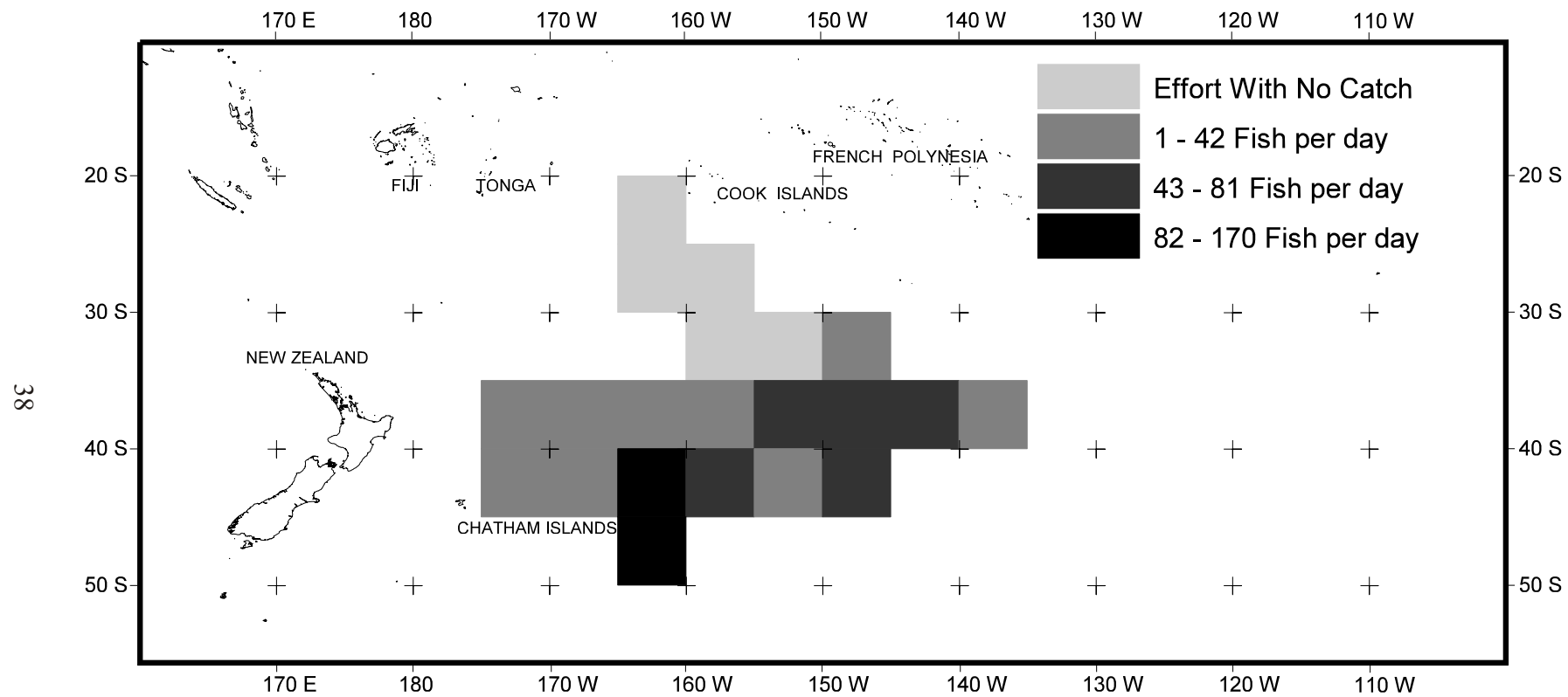


Figure 6c. Distribution of albacore CPUE by U. S. troll vessels in January 2001.

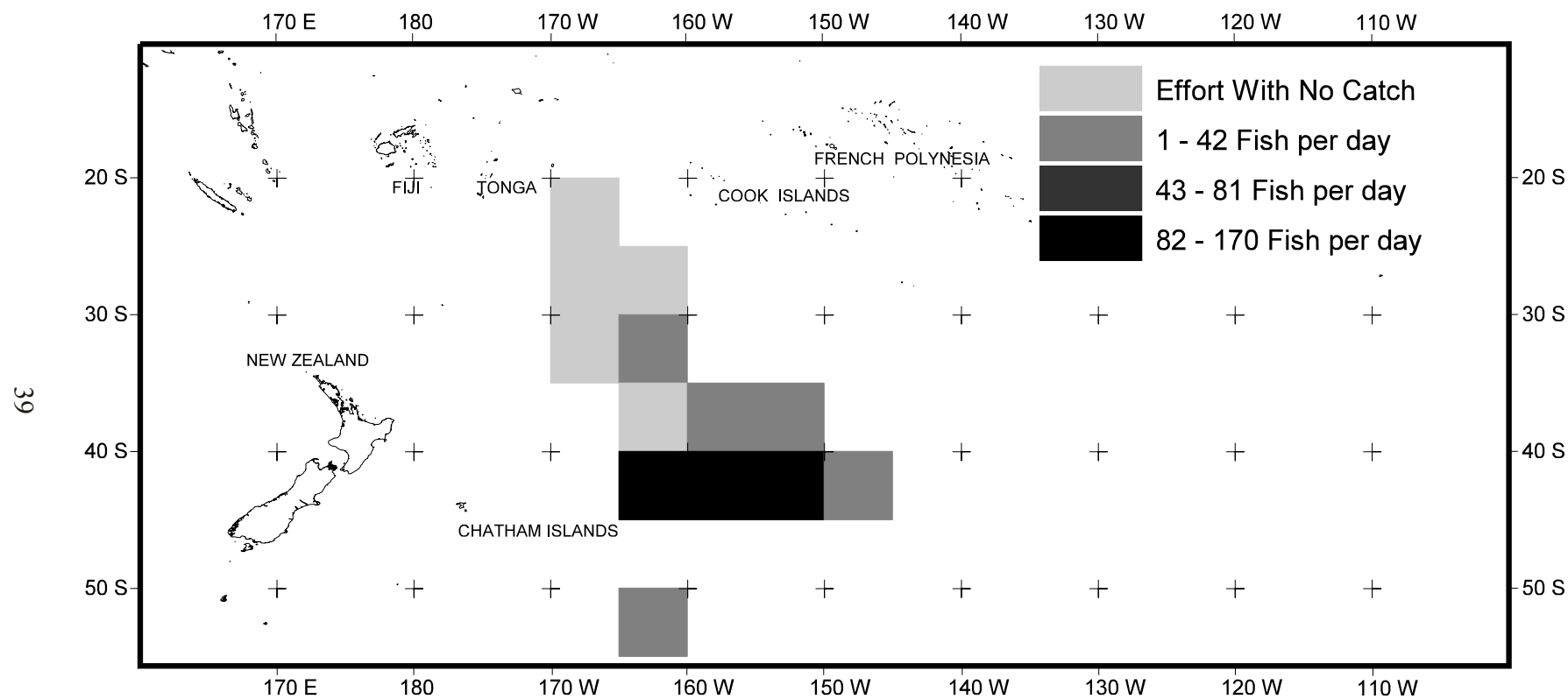


Figure 6d. Distribution of albacore CPUE by U. S. troll vessels in February 2001.

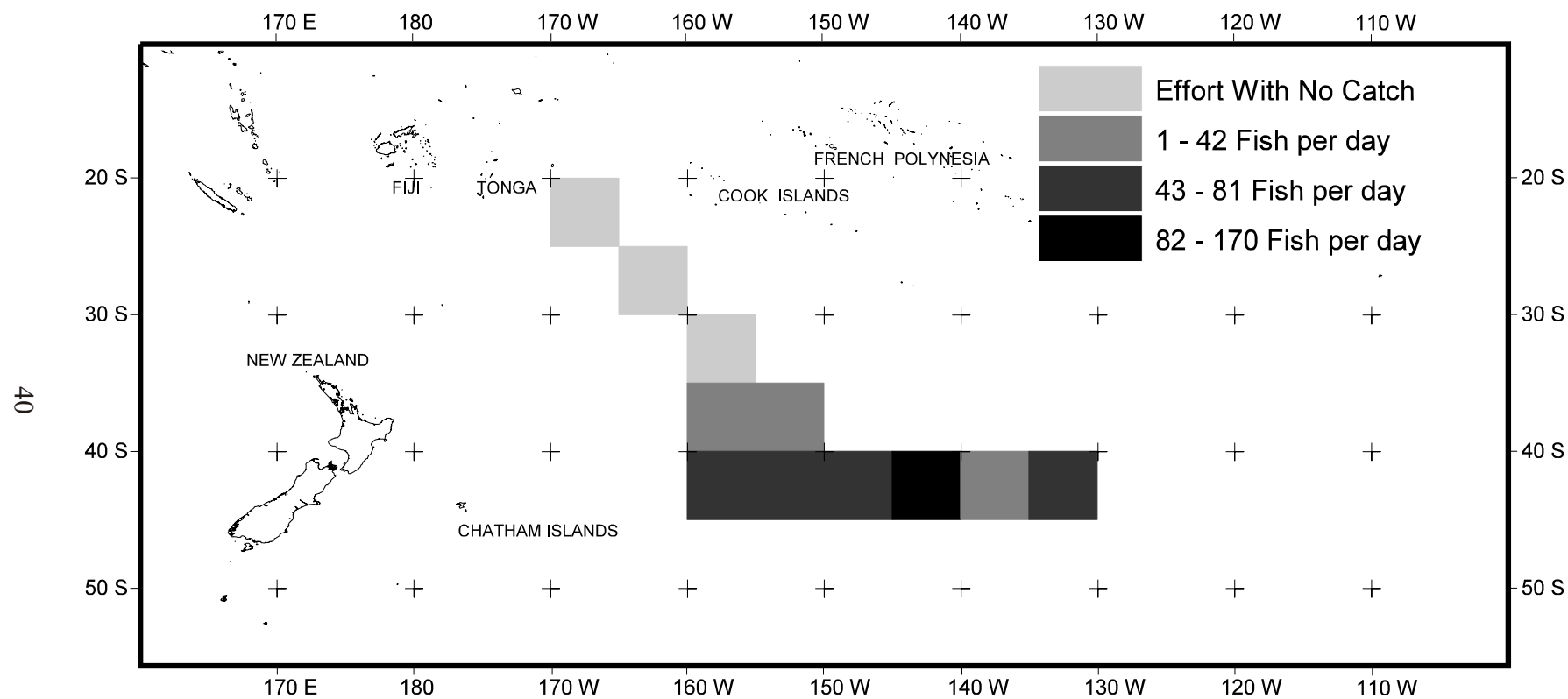


Figure 6e. Distribution of albacore CPUE by U. S. troll vessels in March 2001.

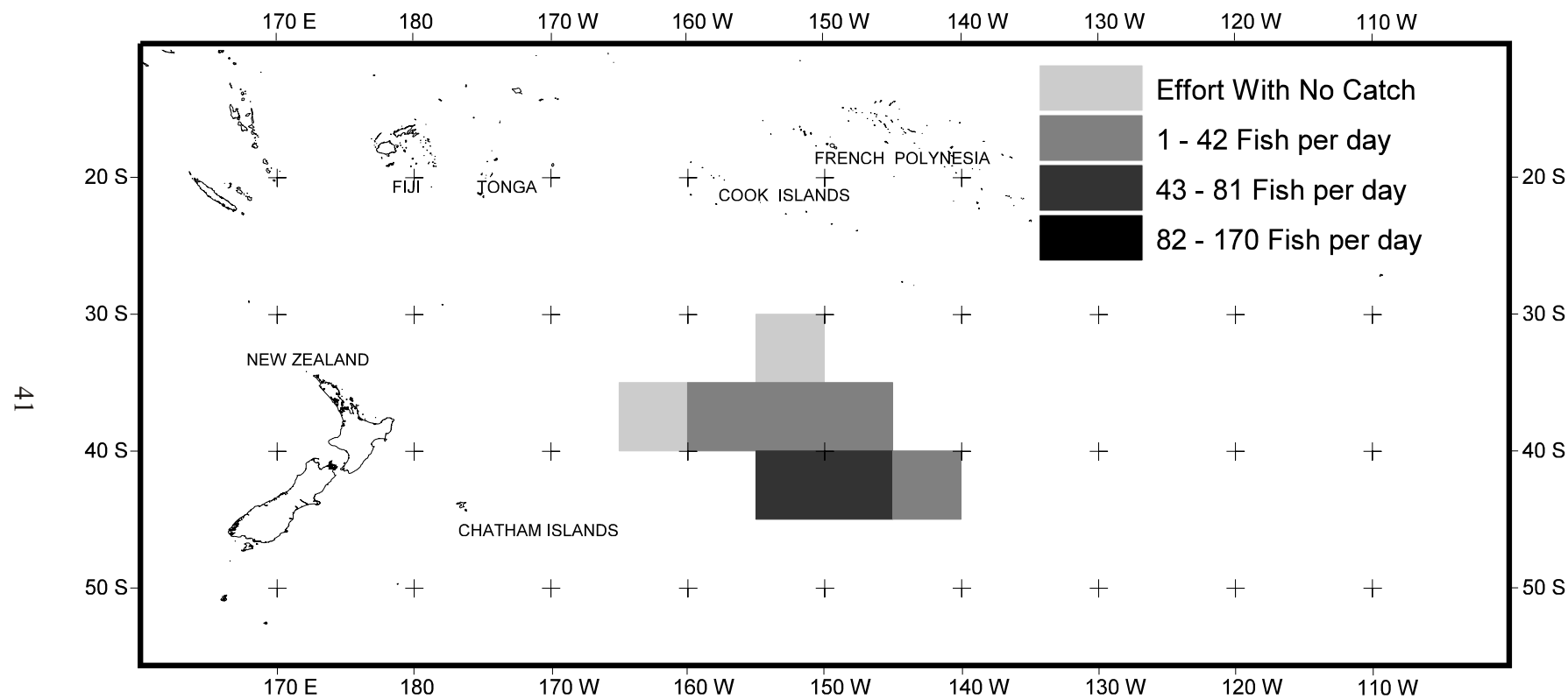


Figure 6f. Distribution of albacore CPUE by U. S. troll vessels in April 2001.

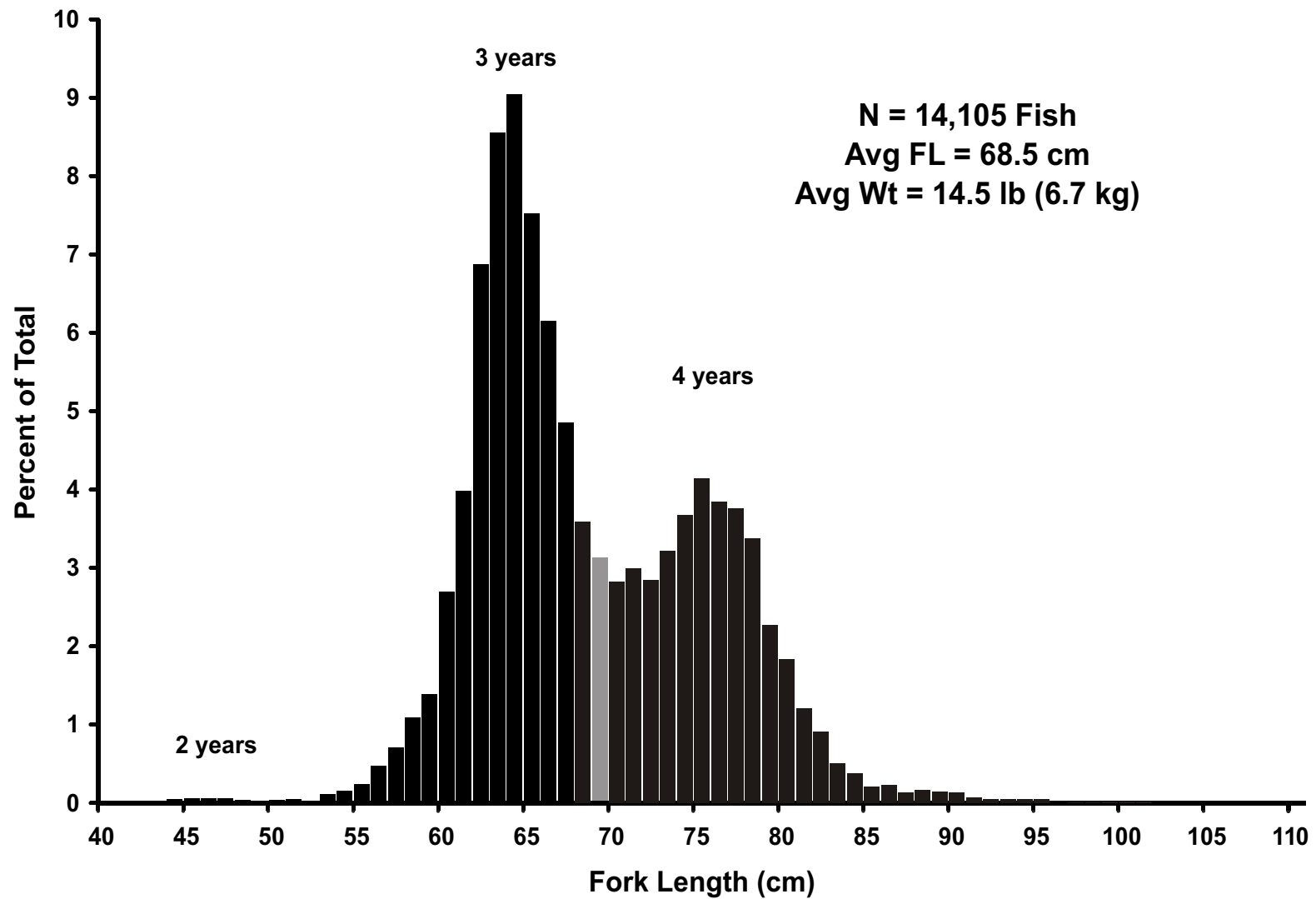


Figure 7. Length-frequency histogram of North Pacific albacore caught by U. S. troll vessels during the 2001 season.

N = 3,760 Fish
Avg FL = 71.0 cm
Avg Wt = 16.2 lb (7.3 kg)

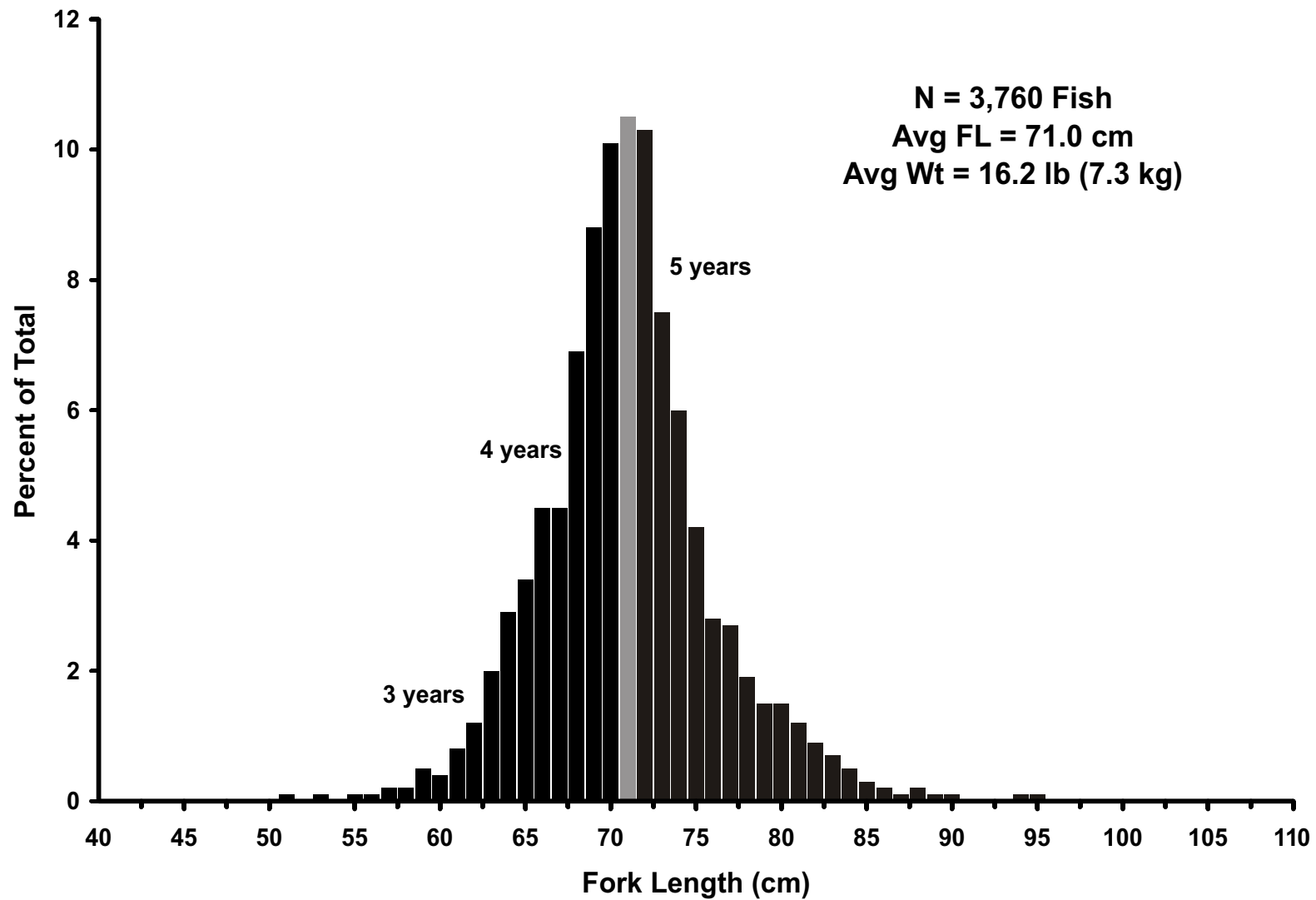


Figure 8. Length-frequency histogram of South Pacific albacore caught by U. S. troll vessels during the 2000-2001 season.